



Monthly Meanders

The Voice of the Wheeling Wheelmen.....May, 1991
P.O. Box 581-D Wheeling, Illinois 60090

Wheeling Wheelmen

THIS MONTH'S MEETING MAY 2nd—7:00pm WHEELING HIGH SCHOOL

This month's program is a new cycling video, "The Ace of Cycling", designed to promote a "Streets Are For Everyone" (SAFE) philosophy. Written and directed by LAW past president Steve Clark, the video took five years to pull together. Most of the video was filmed in Boulder, CO in the fall of 1987. Clark calls the video, which incorporates instructional and informative material into a dramatic format, a tool to help both teenagers and adults think about their transportation choices and the driving and riding attitudes they possess.

PREZ SEZ

by Alan S. Berman

Enclosed with this newsletter is a survey put out by L.A.W. as a part of National Bike Month. It is important that there be a good response to this survey to assist the L.A.W. in planning for the future. I hope that most of you will take a few minutes of your time, complete the survey and return in to the L.A.W. by May 31

In view of the rash of early season accidents, there could not be a more appropriate time for the program to be presented by Dick Sorenson, our safety chairman, at the May meeting. The video he obtained on bike safety should be extremely interesting to us all. Accidents do happen, not only to beginning riders, but to experienced riders as well. Please make every effort to attend this very important meeting.

Congratulations to Carol & Woyteck for getting through an entire week-end without rain (almost) on April 6-7. Two days straight of 25+

Cont. on page 2...

SAFETY CORNER

by Dick Sorenson

I've just finished a fascinating book entitled "Miles From Nowhere" by Barbara Savage. It's a true life bicycling adventure saga of Barbara and Larry Savages's bicycling trip around the world.

They pedalled 23,000 miles through a total of 25 countries in two years. The fascinating thing was that these were two rather ordinary people who decided to complete this extraordinary trek, chucked their jobs, stored their furniture said their "goodbyes" to their families and took off.

Along the way, these near-neophyte cyclists encountered warm-hearted strangers eager to share food and shelter, bicycle-hating drivers who shoved them off the road, various wild animals, sacred cows, rock-throwing policemen, teeming Indians, motherly New Zealanders, meteorological disasters, bodily indignities, and great personal joys. The stress of travelling together constantly for two years, combined with the heavy physical demands of cycling, often strange and sometimes insufficient food, and frequently inadequate lodging, produced periodic emotional crises that tested and ultimately

Cont. on page 2...

The Wheeling Wheelmen Board of Directors

President	Al Berman	541-9248
Vice Prez	Carol/Woyteck	392-0530
Treasurer	Justin Himel	998-1326
Membership	Lisa Gerhold	803-3998
Safety	Dick Sorenson	593-7945
Newsletter/Sec.	Craig Jorgensen	356-0692
Bike books	Roy Erikson	381-5128

(All 708 Area Code)

Club Ride & Information: (312)989-7373

A SOGGY ST. PAT'S

Did it rain on our invitational? Do you hafta ask?

Still, it seems a good time was had by all, and here's what Jerry Rice had to say:

"First of all, Larry and I would like to express our appreciation to all those who helped make the St. Pat's Invitational a success this year.....".

"Rick Breedan from Wauconda Apple Orchards opened the restaurant just for us after a four month winter shut down. We think Rick has shown a lot of support for our club...also[thanks] to all the [club] volunteers".

The stats: 311 registered riders. Youngest rider, 9; oldest rider, 74. 41% of the riders belong to a bicycle club, 26% of those belonging to Wheeling and 14% to McHenry. One rider travelled a distance of 310 miles for this ride (well, maybe he had something else to do while he was out here).

Also, two articles of clothing (use your imagination) were found, if you belong to them, call Jerry (708)870-8127.

Prez Sez... cont. from pg. 1

headwinds made it a little challenging, but the scenery on Sunday more than made up for this.

Safety Corner, cont. from pg. 1

strengthened the young couple's relationship.

If you've ever dreamed of taking such a trip, read this book first. Barbara pulls no punches about how difficult it can be. It's a travelogue as seen from the handlebars; complete with the aches, the pains, the breakdowns and the frustrations.

Sadly, the last page of the book says that as the book was going to press, the author died from head injuries suffered in a cycling accident near her home in Santa Barbara, California.

There must be a moral there somewhere.

GEARING UP

compiled by Craig Jorgensen

Please take note--A T-shirt is NOT included in the registration fee for the McHenry Co. Bicycle Clubs "Udder Century" that is being held on June 1. However, the first 600 to register get a patch and a spaghetti dinner.

I'm sorry to have to report our club's first (and hopefully last) serious injury of the season. On Easter Sunday, Joanne Begy took a rather serious spill while on the club ride. She fell hard enough to break her collarbone, and had she not been wearing her helmet, she might have received a serious head injury as well. At any rate, she's going to be recovering for a while, so let's all send her our best wishes....Get well soon Joanne!

The presentation at last month's meeting was very interesting. Larry O' Toole from the C.B.F. talked about the metro area bicycle map that they've been working on. Right now, the Chicago area proper is finished and should be in print soon, and the next phase of the project is to complete the entire region in the areas surrounding the city. When this project is completed, we will have a map that links all the areas in this part of the state together, and shows all routes suitable for bicycles (including bike paths). This will be a boon to the cyclist that wants to get from one town to another, and will help greatly in planning a commuting route, and in planning club rides. The Wheeling Wheelmen will be contributing to this project by having some of our members check out prospective routes. Keep up the good work C.B.F.!!!

Larry also made several good points about getting involved and using your voice as a cyclist to help preserve (and increase) our rights to the road. This whole area is getting so built-up and plugged-up, that if we don't act soon, we might end up being legislated right off the road. The time to act is now!!! Attend public hearings that affect us as cyclists, and write to your congressmen and representatives. If you don't know who they are, call the Federal information number: 1-800-366-2098.

That's it for this month--stay vertical.

FIRST RIDE

Riding. Wheels rotating, pedals turning round. Eyes forward, watching the pavement surface, hands feeling the changes in the road texture, the seams. A gradual building of awareness as legs become accustomed to pedaling once again.

Watch the line of riders as the cars edge past, and feeling like part of something greater than yourself. Looking for familiar faces in the group, an exchange of greetings, "Hi, how are you".

What's this, a hill?---so soon. Reach for the shift lever. There goes the metallic click-clack of chains as fellow bike juggernauts also search for a gear that relieves winter weary legs. With a huff and a puff, the hill is crested; that actually felt good, and now the cool spring breeze hits you full in the face on the downhill side.

Where's the next turn? Check the route sheet. The names sound familiar but the images of the route are faded in the fog of a summer past.

A few miles down the road now in this first of spring rides; did I leave behind the tire levers? Have I forgotten to get that wobble fixed from last fall? How do these new gloves fit?

The mind begins to clear with the exhilaration of exercise, fresh air, and sunshine. The phrase "freedom of the road" is taken to heart as the child inside rediscovers joy on a bicycle. Looking about, you see the same joy reflected in many of the faces, each rider in the group expressing their rediscovery differently. Some are chatting, sharing stories of past rides, past triumphs; some are looking about, seeing, smelling, the rebirth of spring; and some are finding the joy within themselves as quickened heartbeats push power through reawakened legs. Yes, it feels good to ride. It feels good to be alive.

---Melvin Robinson

TALENTED WRITERS NEEDED...

or maybe not so talented, I can fix it up!

But seriously folks, your contributions are always welcome here at "Monthly Meanders "

H.Q.: Articles, ride reviews, opinions, essays,ect.

Don't make me beg! Send stuff to me: Craig Jorgensen, 25625 Columbia Bay Drive
Lake Villa, IL 60046

FOR SALE

Cannondale pick-up truck rack with two fork mounts. Can handle two more mounts. \$35.00. Call Bill Johnson, (708)945-5631

Campagnolo Victory pedals, brand new--never used, \$35.00; Shimano 105 pedals, \$20.00; Bike work stand, \$40.00. Call Ralph Pedraja, (708)367-6472.

DP exercising rower, \$50.00; stationary bike, \$50.00. Call Hans Predel, (708)255-4029

Wanted: Bicycle travel case. Will rent or buy. Needed in late May. Call Dave Ebert, (708)432-9077.

SPRING GREEN TRIP

JUNE 21-23

BEAUTIFUL ROUTES--

UNPAVED OPTIONS FOR A.T.B.'S--
CHALLENGING HILLS FOR YOU "BIG
DOGS" !

32 people have signed up so far for this ride and there are only 8 openings left. Price includes Lodging, Buffet breakfast Saturday & Sunday, and Saturday night dinner.

If interested, send deposit of \$35.00 per person to:

Alan S. Berman
340 Redwing Dr.
Deerfield, Il 60015

A note about the ride schedule...

Rides are listed with a "L", "T", or "E" next to them. This means "Leisure", "Touring" or "Express". Leisure rides are paced at about 13mph, usually a bit shorter, and suitable for newer riders, families, ect. Touring rides are paced at about 15mph, and are longer. Express means as fast as you wanna go, usually 17mph+. Of course anyone is free to go on any ride they choose, if they don't mind not riding with the main group. Unless otherwise noted, cue sheets and/or maps will be supplied, and the ride leader will appoint someone to ride sweep.

MAY 1991 WHEELING WHEELMEN RIDE SCHEDULE

MTW/DT/DAY TIME	RIDE NAME	PACE (E, L, T)	DISTANCE	RIDE LEADER, PHONE NUMBER STARTING POINT (TOWN, DETAILED DIRECTIONS, ETC.)
May 6:00 p.m.	Evening rides - Tuesday and Thursdays	T	--	Ralph Pedraja, 680-7379. Start from Daniel Wright Woods, Everett and St. Mary Roads, River Woods. Ralph promises these will not be time trials!
05/04/Sa 8:00	Waukesha Ride	T	60/80	Woyteck Morajko, 392-0530, Lowell Park, Waukesha. Take I-94 north to Milwaukee, then 894 west and north around Milwaukee, back on 94 west to Waukesha. First exit past Rte 16 is T. Take T south, it becomes Grandview Blvd. After about 2.5 miles, turn right on Madison Str. Use high school parking lot on right or park on street. Ride goes west thru Palmyra and Kettle Morrine Park to Rome Pond. Food/rest stops are available. Be prepared for lots of scenery and many hills!
05/04/Sa 8:00	Audubon Ride	T	46	Joanne Begy, 634-2456 and Tim Dull, 941-7406, Eisenhower Junior High School, Jones and Hassel east parking lot.
05/05/Su 10:30	Apple Pie Ride	L	33	Elliott Kanner, 541-9176, Buffalo Grove H.S., Arl.Hts.& Dundee Rd. Wauconda Orchard will still be closed, so bring snacks/water.
05/05/Su 6:00	DeKalb Century	T	100	Jim Grant, 428-7042, Wing Park, Elgin. Take NW Tollway (90) to Elgin, south on 31 to Wing Str., right on Wing Str. to park. Pace 15-16 mph.
05/11/Sa 8:30	Going for Ice Cream	T	30/60	Sandy Holzrichter, 541-9429, Lions Park North, Cary, IL. Take Northwest Highway (Rte 14) thru Cary to Silver Lake Rd, turn right (east), go one mile to park, use top parking lot. 1 rest stop on 30, 2 rest stops on 60.
05/12/Su 8:00	Prairie Path Ride	L/T	40-50	John Loesch, 255-0990, Ride the Prairie Path trail from Wheaton to Aurora and Elgin. Call John for details.
05/12/Su 8:00	Tour of Racine County	T	90	Woyteck Morajko, 392-0530, Racine, WI, leave from Regency Mall (in front of Target) Rte 11, 5 miles east of I-94, lunch in town.
05/18/Sa 9:00	Lake Forest Etc..	L/T	30	Bobbie Brenner, 965-6103, Lake Forest Park Bikeway, Old Elm 50 ft west of Sheridan Rd. No place to buy anything, bring adequate food and water.
05/18/Sa 10:30	Mr. T's Trees	L	25	Pat Marshall, 564-0346, Wilmot School (at rear) at Deefield and Wilmot Road. No cue sheet, bring lunch.
05/18/Sa 8:00	Liberty Metric Express Ride	E	65	Ralph Pedraja, 680-7379, Daniel Wright School in River Woods.
05/19/Su 7:30	Wall to Wall Walworth	E	100	Christine & Fred Schroeder, 359-5624, Fellows Street Park, Genoa City, WI
05/19/Su 9:30	McHenry Dam	T	41	Howard Paul, 824-2941, Kildeer School, Long Grove, bring or buy lunch at concession stand. One of the club's favorite rides !!
05/25/Sa 9:00	Volo Bog	T	42	Gee Cunningham, 831-5628, Kildeer School, Long Grove, another club favorite! Bring plenty of water and lunch, nothing available on ride.
05/25 to 05/27	Janesville Weekend	E/T	100/80/ 100	Christine & Fred Schroeder, 359-5624. See newsletter for details. This is a three day trip. First day is going up. Join them on day 2 for a 80 mile trip to New Glarus. The last day is a run for the border -- back to Illinois.
05/27/Mo 8:30	Duck Soup	L/T	27	Diane & Hans Predel, 255-4029. Crabtree Nature Center, Palatine Rd, 1/2 mile east of Algonquin (62). Eat at Reeses or Lang's. Lots of scenery with one or two hills thrown in to make it worth your while!!

TRIAL MEMBERSHIP OFFER

For a limited time, the League of American Wheelmen is offering a trial membership. For four dollars, you will receive: two issues of BICYCLE USA, the League membership magazine which contains informative articles, product reviews, bicycle action information, health and legal advice, and a national ride calendar.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____
 Club _____

send application and four dollars to:
League of American Wheelmen
6707 Whitestone Rd.
Suite 209T
Baltimore, MD 21207-4106

this trial membership offer is good through September, 1991. Please allow time for processing.

TourFinder '91 is on its way! On March 1, the 1991 edition of *TourFinder*, BICYCLE USA's five dollar annual publication, which features the most complete list of bicycle tour operators available. For this edition, we have contacted more than 220 bicycle tours operators and asked them to tell you about their tours; where they are, how long (and how rugged!) they are, how much they cost, what special features are offered, and more. Please send five dollars to: L.A.W., 6707 Whitestone Rd., Suite 209T, Baltimore, MD, 21207-4106.