



Monthly Meanders

Newsletter of the Wheeling Wheelmen Bicycle Club

Feb. 2003

PREZ SEZ

Greetings fellow club members.

I just arrived home from a most delightful evening with several members of our club. 20 people, members and spouses or significant others, all met at Pegasus in Greek town for cocktails, dinner and a lot of laughter. This was our first of many off-season get togethers. Plans are already in progress for February and March. Please come and join us. The next dinner is February 9th. Kris Woodcock is coordinating all the details.

Just think only a couple of months till the new riding season. Tom and Debbie Wilson are chairing this year's St Pats ride. I'm sure they can use volunteers and baked goods if you have not signed up to help out yet.

Don't forget the Bike Show at Navy Pier, March 21-23. There are activities for everyone. A Kids coral, Stunt show, close out sales and of course all the latest bikes and equipment.

I urge all of our members to send a letter or email to your local, state and federal legislators thanking him for supporting bicycle related legislation and appropriations. Anything we can do as a club and individuals to make cycling safer and more enjoyable are time well spent. Did you know that only 25% of the money needed to build and repair local and state roads comes from fuel taxes? The rest comes from general funds. So the next time a motorist tells you that you should not be on the street because you don't pay for gas, let him know that only federal highways are paid for by gas taxes and we don't ride our bikes on the interstate. The reason this comes to mind is the recent ruling by the Illinois Supreme Court upholding the "Boub" decision which basically says that with respect to liability laws bicycles are not "intended" users of roadways except roadway that are signed as a bike route or marked

with bike lanes. This has resulted in many cities are not putting in bike lanes when they repave roads fearing the additional liability. We need legislation to overcome this and the best way to get a legislators attention is to write to him. The LIB is helping draft legislation that could be voted on by late summer or fall. Let them know we appreciate their support. Ironically the bridge that Mr. Boub had his accident on is now closed because it's unsafe for cars.

Came across a cute poem that I thought you might enjoy.

The Romance of Cecilia

Their wedding-day, they whispered, should be soon;
They'd bicycle one life-long honeymoon.
She praised his prowess (ah, that praise was sweet!),
She thought his whole equipment "very neat";
Then whispered, "Darling, -- nay, it must, must be,
"We'll cycle into Andover to tea."

They started: but Cecilia never knew,
While Robert learned, she'd been progressing too.
Down the first hill she led by twenty yards,
(Speed, Robert, Speed! What Fate thy wheel retards?)
Along the level flashed her silver bright,
Another moment -- she was out of sight;
A hill before her! Warning to the fray,
She pedalled (double action) all the way.
O ecstasy! O grand exhilaration!
She dreamt of nothing but the wheel's rotation.
The sun was bright, the open sky was blue;
"Whirr" went the wheel; it hummed; it sang; it flew.
Swift as a bird toward Andover she fled,
And, for a moment, Robert left her head.
Then memory; contrition; and a stop!
She paused upon a difficult hill-top;
Down the valley white the roadway wound,
Two miles -- but not a sight, but not a sound.

She paused; she fidgeted; she stamped her heel;
She choked the rage she could not all conceal;
Then swung her wheel round with an evil grace,
And took that hill at a terrific pace.

"Ah, God of Love, what pains thy victims cull!
"As thou art strong, though shouldst be pitiful,"

Four miles away, back in the paling West,
She found her Robert, pedalling his best.
His face was set -- dead weary, past denying --
She thought he looked as tho' he had been crying,
Yet with determination brave to see
He panted, "Dear, we'll still be there to tea."
She bade him turn; she lead him up the lane;
slowly she rode till they were home again.
She passed the trysting-tree, nor stayed to tell
The parting secrets that they loved so well.
Into the market square, without one kiss,
She rode, and there took leave of Robert Bliss!

I think he knew his fate. I think that, when
a note was brought to him next day at ten,
With no surprise the words assailed his sight:
"I fear I cannot ride with you to-night."
I only know that from that fateful day
He locked his hard-bought bicycle away.

I also know that Miss Cecilia Brown
Was seen last week careering up and down
With Mr. Watkins, muscular and lank,
Who's bought a Swift, and manages the bank.

***from *Legends of the Wheel* by Arthur
Waugh published 1897

See you on the road.

Rich Drapeau

Club Officials

Elected Officers

President	
Rich Drapeau	(847)808-1476
V.P./Ride Chair	
Len Geis	(847)679-0279
Treasurer	
Al Berman	(847)541-9248
Secretary	
Kris Woodcock	(847)520-6932
Membership	
Betsy Burtelow & Jim Boyer	(847)541-1325
Safety	
Barry Cohen	(847)459-7640
Appointed Officers	
Newsletter	
Ella Shields	(773)594-1755
Harmon	
Mary Kay Drapeau	(847)808-1476
Chairmen	
Banquet	
Open	
Harmon Data Base	
Jennie Pfeifer	(847)342-8823
LAB	
Phyllis Harmon	(847)537-1268
Mileage Statistician	
Joe Irons	(847)359-0551
Newsletter Mailings	
Ella Shields	(773)594-1755
Picnic	
Al & Cindy Schneider	(847)696-2356
Refreshments	
Frank & Pat Illy	(847)923-5910
Ride Line	
Art Cunningham	(847)963-8746
St. Pat's Ride	
Tom & Deb Wilson	(847)632-1412
Web Page	
Jim Boyer	(847)541-1325

Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Feb. 18, 7:00 pm at the home of Ella Shields.

All board members are requested to attend. Please give Ella a call at 773/594-1755 and let her know if you will be attending

FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 6, 7:00 p.m. at Wheeling H.S, Room C104*. The high school is located on the north side of Hintz Road just west of Elmhurst Road (83) in Wheeling.

We will discuss the St. Pat's ride and recruit volunteers. Our guest speaker will be club member, Dave Waycie. Dave will show his video from the Chicago Minneapolis Aids Ride that he did in 2001.

* To get to C104 go in the main front doors of the school on Rt. 83. This puts you in the large lobby. Turn right going down the hall lined with blue lockers and C104 will be on your left. If you come in the back door near the cafeteria, (the door we usually use) go into the main hall that runs parallel to the cafeteria to get to the lobby in the front of the school. When in the lobby

2003 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Don't miss out on a great year of cycling

Renewals are due.

If you have not renewed yet this will be your last newsletter. If you have misplaced your application, you can use the one on page 5.

Membership cards will be mailed with the March newsletter.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



David A. Varwig, Chicago
Lewis Check, Chicago
Becky White, Waukegan

May 2003 is National Bicycle Month!!

Celebrate National Bicycle Month with a limited edition license plate set. The plates are approved by the Secretary of State's office and you may display them instead of your regular plates during the months of April and May 2003. The plate sets are numbered from 1 to 300 and priority will be given to those who ordered plates last year. The cost of each plate set is \$25.00. Applications are available online at <http://www.bikelib.org>, or contact Laura Sanborn 630-462-5427 or imsanborn@attbi.com for an application.

Newsletter Policy

We can always use information for the newsletter. I'd love to hear from you. Send or e-mail your ride notes, stories or articles for the newsletter to me by the 10th of the preceding month

Ella Shields
7516 W. Devon Ave.
Chicago, IL. 60631
Shieldsbike@aol.com

(Please include your name and phone number in case I have any questions)

Cross County Skiing

If the snow flies be sure and check the ride line for some x-c ski outings. We have several members that will plan some local ski days. It's great exercise and fun when you can't get out on the bike.



HARMON HUNDRED

Mark your calendar for Sunday Sept. 7. You can register on line at:

active.com

Moving?



Don't miss an issue of Monthly Meanders!! Call Betsy or Jim with all name, address and phone number changes at (847)541-1325.



TOMRV June 7 & 8

Tour of the Mississippi Valley
Bettendorf, Iowa
Scott Community College
Distances: 106 & 86m. or 65 & 40m.
Costs: \$48 (3/31) \$53 (4/30) \$58 (6/1)
Features: 3 State Scenic Tour. T-Shirt, Banquet, Entertainment, Baggage Transfer, Rest Stops w/ Snacks, Marked Route, Maps/Cue Sheets, Jersey available
Quad Cities Bicycle Club
Linda Barchman, 563-388-8043
Email: lindabarchman@hotmail.com
Web: www.qcbc.org/tomrv

Saddle up for the St. Patrick's Day Ride

Saddle up on Sunday, March 16th for the first invitational ride of the season! This year's St. Patrick's Day ride will leave from our new location, Foglia YMCA at 1025 Old McHenry Road in Lake Zurich. We will need your help to host this spectacular early season ride. Just think by signing up for one of the jobs below you can say that you worked the first invitational ride of the season in the greater Chicago land area!!

- **Road marking** – needs to be done the week prior to the ride
- **Registration** – we need people to start setting up about 7:30 am
- **Parking** – attendants will need to be on duty by 7:30 am
- **Food** – we will have two shifts so that we can serve goodies from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM. The early shift will be from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM and the later shift will be from 10:00 AM– 1:00 PM. Typically the heavy crowds are from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- **Cookies** – We need about eight to ten people to supply 8 dozen cookies.

Join in the fun, sign up for a job! Contact Tom or Deb Wilson at 847-632-1412 or e-mail us at tomwilson5@earthlink.net. You can also sign up at the monthly club meetings.

Bike Florida and Madison to host League's National Rally

The League of American Bicyclists has named Bike Florida's "Share the Road Rally and Summit" in Madison, Florida as the site for our National Rally in the fall of 2003. Although the date is still to be determined, we look forward to returning to Florida for the first time since Winter GEAR in Mt. Dora in 1997.

Bike Florida's "Share the Road Rally and Summit" is a chance to ride in North Florida along the beautiful landscapes and country roads of Madison County. With recreational bicycle rides ranging in distances from 15-100 miles, there is sure to be a ride for everyone. Come out and join Bike Florida and the League of American Bicyclists for a long weekend of bicycling fun. For further info visit www.bikeleague.org.

FEB. RIDE SCHEDULE		All Riders Should:	*wear a helmet *bring water *bring a pump	*have a bike in good condition *bring a spare tube and patch kit *arrive early...15-30 minutes	*bring an ID card *bring cell phone *be ready to socialize after ride	
Date	Time	Ride Name	Starting Location	Directions	Miles	Leader Phone #
Every Sat.	10:00	Penny Road Pub Ride	Penny Road Pub	Algonquin Road (Rt. 62) north, turn left on Penny road, one block north of Barrington Road, cross RT 59, pub is on the corner of Sutton Road. Park in back lot	28/37 With Cue sheets	Tom Wilson 847/632-1412
Every Sat Tues &Thurs.	10:00	Show & Go Deerfield Bakery Ride	Jewish Funeral Home	The Bakery is on Buffalo Grove Road & Old Checker Rd. just north of Lake Cook Rd.; parking at the rear of the Jewish Funeral Home just south of the bakery. These rides vary depending on temperature, road conditions and the stamina of the riders who show up. Show 'n Go rides do not usually have cue sheets	25/45	Art Cunningham 847/963-8746 or Bob Savio 847/438-8066

CHECK THE RIDE LINE FOR OTHER WINTER RIDES AND ACTIVITIES - 847/520-5010

FEBRUARY SOCIAL EVENT

1552 N Milwaukee, Chicago
(Damen and North Ave.)



Do you "Dream of Jeannie"??

If so, join us at **Souk** (Middle Eastern Cuisine) for a creative mélange of interesting foods in a funky, hip Wicker Park setting!

Sunday, February 9
5:00 p.m.

RSVP by Feb 5th to Kris Woodcock at 847-520-6932 or email @ kwoodcock@wickesfurniture.com

March will be an Ethiopian meal and April a Turkish dinner.

Following in Darwin's Footsteps

By Sheri Rosenbaum

The alarm goes off at 6 am. The room is swaying. Thank god not as bad as when I went to bed. As the cobwebs start to clear from my head, I hear the unmistakable serenading of sea lions in the distance. This is not a hangover. It's my last morning aboard the Nemo, an 80 foot catamaran that has been my home for eight days and seven nights while island hopping through the Galapagos. Yes, I traded my bicycle for a sailboat and cycling shoes for hiking boots to follow in the footsteps of Charles Darwin. I discovered firsthand how amazing these islands could be after only reading about it in grade school during our study of evolution.

Volcanic in origin, the Galapagos Islands straddle the equator, only 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador (that's in South America). The islands are brimming with wildlife and plants not seen anywhere else in the world. And since all native species are protected from hunting and harassment, they are incredibly tame. Sometimes they don't even wait for you to approach them...they come right up to you. Consequently, you have to watch where you step as they sometime hang out right on the hiking path.

Entry to the Galapagos Islands is strictly enforced. You must always be accompanied by a licensed naturalist. Alexis was our guide and provided not only an abundance of information about plant and animal behavior, but also a lot of laughs. His heavy Spanish accent kept us on our toes and had us renaming species. The Yellow Warbler (a small bird) became a Jell-O Wobbler. And since everything seemed to be named a Galapagos something, a Lava something or a Darwin something, if it didn't have a name it became a Galapagos Lava Darwin something.

Each evening Alexis would brief us on the morning and afternoon landings. Assuring me that each time we'd be guaranteed to see sea lions. Yes, I snapped rolls and rolls of sea lions. Upon return to the states I found myself going through withdrawals not seeing sea lions to photograph. Anyway, the landings were dry or wet. Wet meaning you had to wade ashore from the dingy. The briefing also went over what we would see and do on the islands. Each island was so different than the next. There were red beaches, black beaches, brown beaches, white beaches and even one with little green crystals. All determined by the composition of the volcanic soil. For example, the red beach was caused by a high concentration of iron and copper.

Every day brought a new adventure while we were hiking, snorkeling or sailing. One day in particular stands out and one of the most amazing things I've ever done...body surfed with sea lions. They'd imitate what I did—in all fairness they were much more graceful and agile

than I could ever be. At times we'd be nose to nose as we came flying in on a wave crashing into the beach. I could swear they were giggling right there with me.

I have books on the wildlife in the Galapagos and we didn't even scratch the surface while there. Here's just a sampling of the incredible and diverse wildlife I saw:

- Galapagos Giant Tortoises (Can be up to 150 years old and 1000 pounds. Like a VW Bug)
- Land Iguanas (something out of Jurassic Park)
- Marine Iguanas
- Lava Lizards
- Galapagos Constrictor
- Sally Lightfoot Crabs (bright orange, yellow and blue with eyes that look like purple jelly beans)
- Stingrays
- Dolphins
- Sea Turtles
- Sea Lions
- Octopus
- Nazca Boobies
- Blue-footed Boobies
- Waved Albatross
- Penguins
- Flamingos
- Frigate birds
- Brown Pelicans
- Darwin Finches (Saw 5 of the 13 species)
- Galapagos Hawks (very rare and we saw 5)
- Lava heron
- Great Blue Heron
- White-cheeked Pintail Ducks
- Oystercatchers
- Yellow Warblers
- Mockingbirds

I feel blessed to have been one of only 60,000 people a year permitted to experience the magic first-hand. As with my trip to Kenya, it reinforced the importance of conservation and education. Without protecting the environment and educating people about the importance of maintaining the habitat for these animals, they can quickly become a thing of the past.

If you'd like more information about visiting Ecuador and/or the Galapagos, please feel free to contact me at Luv2Bike80@hotmail.com or visit www.adventure-life.com (they specialize in trips to South America). Also to view a few pictures of these amazing animals, I've posted some to my web site www.yaddayaddacards.com.

CONGRATULATIONS



Jim Boyer & Betsy Burtelow recently became engaged.

Wayne Segedie and Lorraine Arnold are planning a May wedding.

Subaru Chicago Bike Show — March 21-23

The Subaru Chicago Bike Show and Family Fitness Expo is the largest show of its kind in the Midwest. From the Extreme Stunt Shows to the latest products and information from the bicycling industry, this show has something for every member of the family. Major manufacturers, tour operators, local stores, clubs and other bike-related organizations will exhibit at this year's expanded show. Chicago has become a national leader in bicycle advocacy and was named the nation's best big city for cycling in November, 2001 by Bicycling Magazine. In that spirit, The Subaru Chicago Bike Show and Fitness Expo is expected to draw 25,000 attendees as it brings cycling's showcase event downtown to historic Navy Pier again this year.

Meet the riders of the US Postal Team, Robbie Ventura and Kenny Labbe, at booth #610. Check the website for details and specific appearance times

WHEN: Friday, March 21 – Noon to 8 p.m.
 Saturday, March 22 – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 Sunday, March 23 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Festival Hall A at Navy Pier, Chicago

COST: \$8 for adults
 \$4 for children under 12
 Free for children under 6
 Discount coupons available on line

INFO: www.chicagobikeshow.com
 847-675-0200

**INTERNATIONAL ADVENTURE TRAVEL SHOW
 Feb. 21-23**

Visit 450 exhibitors from 78 countries and learn about the latest and hottest destination packages. Navigate the Expo with ease by visiting exhibitors in 20 designated country, region and industry pavilions on the show floor. As you walk your way through the Expo, try out the IATOS 2003 interactive areas offering fun and entertainment for the whole family!

Location: Navy Pier Convention Center, Chicago

Expo Hours:

Friday, February 21, 5 pm – 8:30 pm
 Saturday, February 22, 10 am – 7:30 pm
 Sunday, February 23, 10 am – 5 pm

Entrance Fees:

Adult: \$10
 Children (5 –12): \$4 Under 5: Free
 All entrance fees include access to Public Adventure Seminars. Discount coupons available on line <http://www.adventuretravelshow.com/public/discountcoupons.htm>

Wheeling Wheelmen Membership Application

Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Address: _____

Children's Names: _____ Age: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Age: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

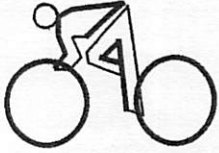
New Member? Renewal? L.A.B. Member? Family dues: \$20 Individual dues: \$15

Membership Pledge: I hereby agree to operate my bicycle in a manner that is safe to me and those around me, to observe all the rules of the road, and conduct myself in a manner that will be complimentary to the sport. I release and waive all claims for negligence against the WHEELING WHEELMEN, its officers and members for all damages incurred at or associated with any WHEELING WHEELMEN activity for myself, my heirs and executors.

 Applicant's Signature (parent's signature if a minor)

 Spouse's Signature

Mail this application with payment to Wheeling Wheelmen, P.O. Box 7304, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089-7304



Wheeling Wheelmen
P.O. Box 7304
Buffalo Grove, IL
60089-7304



Next Club Meeting
February 6, 2003
Meetings are
7:00 pm at
Wheeling High School
Rt. 83 and Hintz Rd.

Mailing
Address
Goes Here

We support:
*The League of American
Bicyclists
*The League of Illinois
Bicyclists
*The Chicagoland Bicycle
Federation



In This Issue...

Prez Sez...St. Pat's Ride... Winter Rides...Social Event...Travel Show....Bike Show

Club Discounts!

The following local bike shops offer a 10% discount on parts and accessories to all Wheeling Wheelmen with a valid membership card shown at time of purchase.

- AMLINGS CYCLE & FITNESS**
8140 N Milwaukee Ave., Niles (847)692-4240
- ARLINGTON BICYCLE COMPANY**
45 S Dunton, Arlington Hts. (847)253-7700
- BARRINGTON BICYCLE CO.**
Barrington Market Center 200 N. Hough Street, #12
Barrington, 847/842-9798
- BICYCLE CONNECTION OF SCHAUMBURG**
1226 N Roselle Rd., Schaumburg, (847)882-7728
- BIKE PROS**
1313 N. Rand Rd, Arlington Hts. , (847)398-1650
- BUFFALO GROVE CYCLING AND FITNESS**
960 S Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove
(847)541-4661
- FS CYCLES**
20556 N. Milwaukee Ave., Deerfield (847)537-2453
- GEORGE GARNER CYCLERY**
111 Waukegan Rd., Northbrook, (847)272-2100
- LIBERTYVILLE CYCLERY**
800 N. Milwaukee Ave, Libertyville, (847)362-6030
- MIKES BIKES**
155 N Northwest Hwy, Palatine, (847)358-0948
- RUNNER'S HIGH**
7 S. Dunton, Arlington Hts. 847-670-9255
- SHAMROCK CYCLERY**
344 Old McHenry Rd, Long Grove 847-913-9767

Club Discounts!

- SPOKES**, 223 Rice Square at Danada, Wheaton
(630)690-2050
- 1807 S. Washington, Naperville (630)961-8222
- THE CYCLERY**
575 Ela Road, Lake Zurich, (847)438-9600
- VILLAGE CYCLESPORT**
63 Park & Shop, Elk Grove Village (847)439-3340

JOIN THE LEAGUE!

The League of American Bicyclists promotes cycling through safety and represents us in the decision making process in Washington D.C. A yearly membership is \$30 for individuals, \$35 for families and should be sent to:

League of American Bicyclists
1612 K Street, NW, Suite #401
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: (202)822-1333
Fax: (202)822-1334
E-mail: BikeLeague@aol.com
Web Site: www.bikeleague.org
In addition to government relations, they also organize many great cycling rides and rallies around the country. For information on these events call (800)288-BIKE.

Check out our Website!



Web-page:
www.wheelmen.com

E-mail:
wheeling@wheelmen.com

Club Hotline
(847)520-5010



Ride and Club Information