



MONTHLY MEANDERS

SHIP, SCHLEP OR RENT

Last February, Dan Wiessner and I headed to Tucson, AZ to visit former WW member Tricia and her husband to cycle and hike. (See August Newsletter for trip article). Cycling was our main objective. So I had to decide if I'd ship my bike, schlep it on the plane, or rent one locally. On all my other cycling trips I either drove or the tour group arranged shipment. I eliminated the idea of renting from a local bike shop. Since I was planning on riding all week, I wanted my own bike, Blanca. Dan decided to rent one locally.

I checked into schleping it on plane. The thought didn't excite me. Imagine a large suitcase, a heavy bike case plus a carry on. No thank you! I haven't even gotten to the cost. A friend offered to loan me his bike case. To rent one from a local bike shop is about \$50. Then the airlines charge between \$150 and \$200 each way!!! That's insane. It was more than the cost of my ticket. Also don't forget you have to disassemble and reassemble the bike (e.g. wheels,

handlebars, seat post, pedals, etc.).

So I started researching companies that ship bikes and/or luggage. I found one that only ships bikes, appropriately named ShipBikes.com. They offered a variety of shipping containers and options. I



went with the AirCaddy which is shown above. I liked this option because all I had to do was remove the seat post and front wheel. Then rotate the handle bars down. So minimal assembly once I get to Tucson. Just one wrench and I'm ready to go.

The box actually looks like a giant bike coffin. Now all I

had to figure out is how to get it from my living room to the FedEx store. It's not heavy, just huge!!! FedEx will do a home pick up but that is even more money. So thank goodness for a dear friend who helped me transport the beast.

The cost FedEx Ground from Chicago to Tucson was \$110 which included \$1000 of insurance. Basic insurance is \$100 so I just bumped it up. The only fear when shipping your bike is damage or loss. I shipped directly to the hotel and was able to track it the whole way. Blanca arrived in perfect condition a couple of days before I did.

Upon arrival, all I had to do is position the handle bars, put the seat post on and put my front wheel on. Took like 5 minutes. I went out for quick spin to test the gears and then we were good to go.

Dan rented a bike from a local bike shop, a Specialized Roubaix. He was considering buying that brand

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November 2014

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Sunday, November 2

Club Officials

Elected Officers

President

Joe Beemster 847-215-2314

V.P.-Ride Chair

Sheri Rosenbaum 847-971-4573
luv2bike80@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Johannes Smits 630-893-2835

Secretary

Dave Waycie 847-577-6307

Membership

Mitch Rosset rrkite99@aol.com

Publicity Chair

Pam Kaloustian 847-707-0203
bubbath1@comcast.net

Appointed Officers

Harmon Chairman

Roland Cooper 847-732-0432
rscooper3@gmail.com

Newsletter

Ella Shields 773-407-4712

St. Pat's Ride

Anna & George Swietczak 312-969-1010

Chairmen

Banquet

Meg Ewen 630-540-1704
Terri Brei 630-606-4341

Harmon Data Base

Emily Qualich 847- 821-1009

Mileage Statistician

Emily Qualich 847- 821-1009
e.qualich@comcast.net

Newsletter Mailings

Joe Beemster 847-215-2314

Picnic

Al & Cindy Schneider 847-696-2356

Web Page

Jim Boyer 847-541-1325

Newsletter Policy

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

Ella Shields

eshieldsbike@yahoo.com

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



Don't miss an issue of Monthly Meanders!! Contact Mitch Rosset with your new address or e-mail address at rrkite99@aol.com

TOP 20 MILES

Come to the Banquet to find out the final mileage

BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting is Sunday, January 18, 2015, 5:00 p.m. at the home of Joe Beemster.

All Board members are requested to attend.

Wheeling Wheelmen

Board Meeting

October 6, 2014

Present: Joe Beemster, Pam Kaloustian, Sheri Rosenbaum, Ella Shields, Johannes Smits, Roland Cooper, Dave Waycie

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed Harmon results. 2013 and 2014 were very close, with only about \$400 difference.

Website: Johannes has set up a demo version. Will review usage statistics on the current site. Target for completion is early 2015.

Ride Schedule: Reviewing invitations for listing on the ride schedule. Will drop TOMRV, and add some local invitationals. Picnic date for 2015 is July 12. St, Pat's ride is March 22.

Harmon Update: Roland will gather a small group to review survey results.

Issues to consider for next year:
Communication. Cell service is very spotty – options?

Rest stop and SAG are tough jobs – any way to shorten shifts or get more volunteers?

Joe will contact Wheel and Sprocket to provide service at Eagle next year.

Publicity: No activity.

Banquet: Sunday, November 9. All on track.

Holiday Party: Sunday, December 7. Same location as last year. Pam Burke is coordinating.

2015 Member Meetings:

Feb: Pearl Izumi store – winter riding gear

Mar: Al Gibbs – Canadian bike ride

Apr: Discussed options - open

Newsletter:

Nov: Sheri

Dec/Jan: Joe

Next Board Meeting: Sunday, January 18, 5:00 PM, Joe will host.

Dave Waycie, Secretary

WEEKLY SHOW N GO RIDES					
Day	Time	Ride	Miles	Start-Directions	Ride Host
Tuesday & Thursday	10:00 am	Deerfield Bakery Ride	25-40	Willow Stream Park On Old Checker Rd. a few tenths of a mile west of the bakery. Turn west on old Checker Rd. to parking on the right	n/a
Saturday & Sunday	10:00 am	Show N Go Rides	25 +	Willow Stream Park See above	n/a

Be sure to be on the Yahoo group and-or Facebook for last minute changes

POST SEASON TRAIL RIDES:

Some of the most interesting rides of the year. Yes there is some traveling involved but it is a case of going to the cool places rather than riding in the same old . The rides are all around 35 miles but this seems to be enough when you factor in limestone paths. On the rides that are not out and back we will re- group as needed but these are not slow speed rides. Not crazy fast' just spirited.

Any bike with a little bigger tire and

maybe some tread will do. You do NOT need a mountain bike and cross bikes or hybrids seem to work out perfectly.

The first ride is the ride of everything. Done several times in the past it encompasses 4 different trails and about every type of scenery to be found in our area. Everyone who has ridden it looks forward to riding it again. There is a classic old diner at the end with homemade soup, great on a cool November day!

The second ride will be once around Waterford Glen (site of the original

green houses for Lincoln Park) and out my secret path to the IM Canal. Beauty and history abound. Depending on our speed and the weather we will turn around in either Lockport or in the historic Joliet Iron Works. Talk about history... The arms from the Civil War cannon all the way to the tanks of the World Wars were made here. At the end we usually go into historic downtown Lemont and pick from one of the funky little eateries.

Why drive to these rides ? Because it's worth it!

TRAIL RIDES				
Day	Time	Ride/Start	Trail/Distance	Directions
Sat. Nov 1	10am	Fox River Trail/ Great Western/ Prairie Path	Paved/Crushed limestone approx. 35 miles	1101 Raymond St (approx. address), South Elgin. Meet in a small parking lot near the confluence of the Fox River and Prairie Trails. The major intersection is Rt 25 and Rt 20. Bring money for lunch after ride.
Sat. Nov 8	10am	IM Canal/ Waterfall Glen	Paved/Crushed limestone approx. 35 miles	Parking lot on Lemont Rd about 3 mile south of I-55. Corner of Lemont Rd and 101st Street and called Waterfall Glen. The Forest Preserve is crushed limestone but we will also take the path out of the park and travel on the paved IM Canal path to Lockport. Bring money for lunch after ride.
Sat. Nov 15	10am	Des Plaines River Trail - Northbound	Crushed limestone approx. 35 miles	Start at the Dundee Rd parking area. The lot is just east of Milwaukee Ave. on the north side of the road.

Contact Mitch Rosset with any questions 847-814-3107



HOLIDAY PARTY

Sunday, December 7

2:00 pm –7:00 pm

Arlington Club Condominium Clubhouse*

1610 Newburn Court

Wheeling, IL.

Please RSVP to Pam Burke by November 30

The club will be providing dinner.

Please see Pam at the banquet to sign up to
bring appetizers, desserts or drinks.

Otherwise e-mail Pam at
pamelaburke2000@yahoo.com

Adults Only

*Directions: Closest Intersection: Buffalo Grove Road and Dundee. Go north on Buffalo Grove Rd and turn into the Arlington Club entrance on Cobbler Ln. At the T turn left onto Arlington Dr. The clubhouse is on the right. Guest must park on the WEST side of Arlington Dr.

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<p>www.villagecyclesport.com 45 Arlington Hts. Rd. • Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 • 847-439-3340 1326 N. Rand Road • Arlington Heights, IL 60004 • 847-398-1650 203 West Northwest Hwy. • Barrington, IL 60010 • 847-382-9200</p>		<p>Ask for your <i>Wheeling Wheelmen Discount</i></p>

The **Wheeling Wheelmen Bicycle Club** has an active Yahoo Group available on the Internet. The group works like a bulletin board and allows us to exchange email with other club members without having to know everyone's individual email address. You must subscribe to the group before you can send a message. Follow the instructions required by Yahoo to complete your registration.

NOTE: Due to spam and email address hijacking concerns, subscription to the Yahoo Group is limited to current members of the Wheeling Wheelmen Bicycle Club only. If you have questions about club membership, rides or events, please send an email to: wheeling@wheelmen.com

To Subscribe send an email message to:
wheelingwheelmen-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To Unsubscribe send an email message to:
wheelingwheelmen-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

To post a message send your message in an email to:
wheelingwheelmen@yahoogroups.com

The group name is: **wheelingwheelmen** and is available at: pgroups.yahoo.com/group-wheelingwheelmen

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and model so perfect opportunity to do a test drive before spending a lot of money. Some key things to consider when renting. It is always advised to bring your own seat and pedals. Kind of obvious why you would want your tried and true saddle. But not so obvious for pedals. First, you'd want the pedals that work with your style of cleats. Second, the tension is adjusted correctly to your cleats.

This experience has taught me two other things to consider when renting which never crossed my mind. Gearing and tires. If you decide to rent, ask what kind of gearing will be on the bike. Is it a compact crank? What size cassette? If you will be doing a lot of climbing, do you have the right gears to get up the mountain? In Dan's case, the cassette on the rental wasn't ideal. Could have used an 11-28. It worked out okay, just made it tougher to spin up some of the steeper climbs.



Also, check the condition of the tires on your rental. If they look worn or have cuts ask them to be replaced prior to leaving the store. You want your equipment in tip top shape before you do a steep mountain descent at 40 mph.

If I go on a cycling trip again and need to take my bike, I'd definitely consider using ShipBikes.com. Now with my new Trek Domane I have a concern that it might not fit in most boxes or cases. The seat post goes over a mast. So that mast might be too long. Also being carbon fiber, it could easily get damaged in a cardboard box. Oh well, I'll worry about that later.

I hope I gave you some food for thought when you are planning to travel with your bike. Ship, Schlep or Rent...you decide what's best for you.

Enjoy the ride,
Sheri Rosenbaum



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 Buffalo Grove, Il.
 60089-7304
 wheeling@wheelmen.com

We are on the web
wheelmen.com



SAVE THE DATES

Nov. 9 - Banquet
 Dec. 7 - Holiday Party



CLUB DISCOUNTS

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

ALBERTO'S CYCLES
 661 Central, Highland Park
 847- 432-0015

AMLINGS CYCLE & FITNESS
 8140 N Milwaukee Ave.
 Niles 847-692-4240

B&G CYCLERY
 131 E. Rollins Rd,
 Round Lake Beach,
 847-740-0007

BICYCLE CONNECTION OF SCHAUMBURG
 1226 N Roselle Rd.
 Schaumburg
 847-882-7728

GEORGE GARNER CYCLERY
 1111 Waukegan Rd. Northbrook 847-272-2100

LIBERTYVILLE CYCLERY
 740 N. Milwaukee Ave,
 Libertyville, 847-362-6030

MIKES BIKES
 155 N Northwest Hwy,
 Palatine, 847-358-0948

RUNNER'S HIGH & TRI
 121 W. Campbell,
 Arlington Hts.,
 847-670-9255

SPOKES
 69 Danada Square E,
 Wheaton 630-690-2050
 1807 S. Washington, #112
 Naperville, 630-961-8222

TREK BICYCLE STORE – HIGHLAND PARK
 1925 Skokie Hwy
 Highland Park trekhp.com
 847-433-8735

THE CYCLERY
 575 Ela Road, Lake Zurich
 847-438-9600

VILLAGE CYCLESPORT
 45 Arlington Hts Rd
 Elk Grove Village
 847-439-3340
 1326 N. Rand Rd.
 Arlington Hts.
 847-398-1650
 203 W. Northwest Hwy
 Barrington
 847-382-9200

WHEEL & SPROCKET
 1027 Davis Street
 Evanston
 847-864-7660
wheelandsprocket.com

We support:

- *The League of American Bicyclists
- *The League of Illinois Bicyclists
- *Active Transportation Alliance
- *Buffalo Grove Bike Rodeo
- *Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin

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 \$35 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