



Wheeling Wheelmen

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

February 2021

With this new season the new President of the Wheeling Wheelmen arrived - George Karpen. I am he. I have been a member of the Wheeling Wheelmen since 1982 and I have watched a number of presidents come and go over the years.

I am here to bring two much needed changes to our club. First and foremost is bringing the Harmon Hundred back to Illinois so that many more cyclists can have access to this great invitational. The paid rider participation rate at its best in WI is one-third of what it was at Wheeling HS using the same amount of Wheelmen effort. The average WI rider participation rate was 66. More information to follow as it becomes available. The second change is to update the Wheeling Wheelmen Constitution to reflect the need for instant information gratification that we live in while maintaining the foundation values and core beliefs that this great bicycle club was founded on.

We are in need of the following: Harmon Hundred Ride Chair, Saturday "Honey Do", Sunday ride and Tuesday night ride hosts.

For the last year and a half Johannes has been working very hard updating the Wheeling Wheelmen website at www.wheelmen.com, I personally have spent well over a hundred hours reviewing and scanning documents to be archived to our website. It will be a "one stop shopping" where you will find everything that is anything concerning the club and its rides.

Let us start by clicking "Club Rides" and then clicking "Ride Information". Next, select the month that you are interested in. There you will find the Day, Date, Time, Ride Name, Miles, Start, and Directions to the ride starting point and finally the host where you will find yours truly ready to lead the "No Drop" ride Wednesday morning's until Dennis Ellertson's return. I urge you to please take a look so we know that all of our efforts have not gone in vain.

At this very moment the board is working hard to hopefully make this same information available on the various social media web pages starting with the ride schedule mentioned above. Each month I hope to introduce you to new additions to the website that Johannes has so tirelessly labored on. Our excellent club secretary, Ella, will be posting the minutes of all board meetings along with anything else the club should be informed of. Neal has finalized the club rides for the upcoming season and MJ will be posting the ride schedule to Facebook along with other pertinent club information. Emily, along with her many other duties will be co-hosting the Facebook section. Scott will be assisting me gathering the statistics I need in moving the Harmon.

The board in its first meeting in January voted unanimously to cancel the St. Patrick's Day Ride due to COVID-19 for the year 2021.

I know I can say that I personally cannot wait to see all of you again and it has been suggested that we even have an additional early banquet this year, COVID-19 permitting. Please keep in mind that this pandemic isolation is like riding a century. I believe we are but 20- miles or so out from the finish where we will all complete this century together.

Unus pro omnibus, omnes pro uno.

George, President