



Wheeling Wheelmen

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

April 2021

Hello Everyone: I trust that all of you have put in many warm miles already. The reason you have not seen me is that I injured my Achilles tendon in my right leg so I am taking some weeks off.

I am going to repeat what I promised to do if I was elected president of the Wheeling Wheelmen. "First and foremost is bringing the Harmon Hundred back to Illinois so that many more cyclists can have access to this great invitational". I expect all of you who voted for me to hold me to this great expectation. If these were normal times this would have been accomplished by now with a myriad of sponsors and supporters. I have been working hard in the background on this and I fully expect a very successful outcome. So there is no misunderstanding here COVID-19 is the issue and the restriction to having the most successful Harmon Hundred since Wheeling High School.

I am awaiting word on whether the hosting site for the Harmon Hundred is going to grant us permission to use their property due to COVID-19. Normally we would have this permission but the pandemic continues to do its destruction. The best made plans of mice and men I guess. As you all know the Wheeling Wheelmen board had to cancel the Saint Patrick's Day invitational at Wauconda High School because of availability of the school and the Arlington Heights Bicycle Club had to do the same thing for the Arlington 500 for the first week of June because Barrington High School would not give permission for the event. The bad news just keeps on coming. We cannot get permission to use Lake County forest preserves for a club picnic this year where in the past we have used this venue to sign up volunteers for the Harmon Hundred. So if the Harmon Hundred does receive permission to go this year I will post all the positions we need to fill by all of you on the website and in the newsletter. If we do receive permission I will present to the board and membership all the plans that I have made and I expect a good turnout by bicyclists from all over the Chicago area.

I have heard that starting April 12th the areas outside of the city of Chicago will be open to vaccinations for everyone over the age of sixteen and that on April 19th the city of Chicago will be open to this vaccination plan as well. I have also heard that roughly seventy percent of seniors sixty-five and over and twenty percent of the state have received at least one shot of the vaccine. Three quarters of the board at April's board meeting had received at least one shot of a vaccine.

Jim updated the board on the constant threats made upon the board from cyber scams through SPOOFING. "SPOOFING" is where a caller or email looks like someone in your contacts. I have strongly proposed that board members email addresses be removed from the website. Jim is going to draw up a set of proposals concerning best practices on cyber activities that can be added to the Wheeling Wheelmen constitution. The board agreed to invite any and all paid members to the next ZOOM board meeting. Johannes will be working out the logistics on this.

A big and hardy "WELCOME BACK" to Dennis Ellertson. All of us have missed you greatly.

For all of you, take care and ride safe.

George, President