

The sprocket

Southern Indiana Wheelmen

January - February 2000

The President's Message

Paul Beach

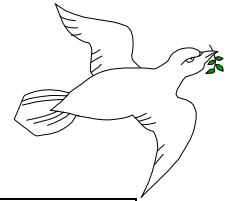
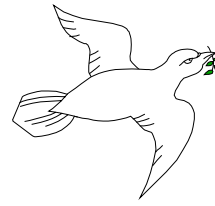
First of all, I would like to thank everyone again for a great 1999. I would like to give a special thanks to the S.I.W. officers for 1999 and 2000. I appreciate the support and opportunity to promote cycling with our club in Southern Indiana.

The award dinner was, as always, a great turnout and a real nice time, thanks to our "MC" Charlie O. I guess you noticed I don't do very well up there. So, if I forgot something or someone, please forgive me. Thanks again.

I'm looking forward to the year 2000. It used to seem so far away - but now it's here! What goals do you have? Maybe 2000 miles in '00? Or, in Dick Keith's case, 2000 miles by June (in '99 Dick had over 2100 miles by July).

Remember that we always welcome any ideas or suggestions for the club. Have a great New Year and may the wind be at your back and the sun on your face.

Ride safely and may God Bless.



Rules Clarification

Executive Board

Some discussion concerning mileage credit was brought before the executive board in September 1999 at the regular club meeting. Several members were concerned that mileage credit was given to riders who only rode part of the designated route. The board felt, and all those in attendance agreed, that "members wanting S.I.W. mileage credit must ride the designated route from start to finish". The board proposed that if a ride captain sees a member consistently not following the route, or cutting the route short, the ride captain can remove that member's name from the sign-up sheet. We want everyone to enjoy the club's rides, so some give and take is in order. Ride Captains, please be lenient. A lot of discretion is needed and only consistent offenders need be addressed. If any member feels this policy isn't right, please talk with a club officer, or attend the next club meeting.



Polar Bear Ride

TheKimers

The January 1st Polar Bear ride will be at Bob & Linda Martin's. Please R.S.V.P. at 256-6131; their home address is 7107 Carl Ross Dr. which is located off High Jackson on the West Side of Charlestown. S.I.W. will furnish turkey, ham, and soft drinks, please bring a covered dish or dessert. The 25-mile ride starts at 10:00am. If you don't feel like riding; feel welcome to come for lunch and socializing.

Little Miami Scenic Trail

TheKimers

On October 30th nineteen S.I.W. members traveled to middle-Ohio for a great weekend of bicycling. We enjoyed two days of wonderful 70 degree weather on the super flat Miami Scenic Trail. The blacktop trail is a converted railroad bed running approximately 90 miles.

Our starting point each day was Corwin, a small town located close to the midpoint of the trail. On Saturday morning we rode 25 miles north to the town of Yellow Springs. Before departing, Jean was showing the group an electronic train whistle she has attached to their tandem. Jean usually toots the whistle before starting; this lets the group know the ride has begun. Jean was standing beside the bike and tooted the whistle to show the group. Bill thought Jean was on the bike and started riding off, leaving Jean behind. After a few seconds, Bill realized his stoker wasn't stoking; and Jean realized she shouldn't toot the whistle unless she's on the train.

Bill & Jean set a steady pace on their tandem, with the rest of us content to follow them. A tailwind made the trip north go fast. The old railroad stations had been converted into tourist information stops and public restrooms. Ron M. didn't need to run into the woods on this ride - pitstops were every ten miles.

After the ride Saturday, most of us spent the night in Waynesville, just a mile from our start point. Waynesville boasts that it is the largest antique and gift shopping town in Ohio. We checked out the stores for a few hours to see if that was true. No one took any packages back to their rooms, although Charlie O. spotted a huge rooster that he thought would be perfect for his landscape back home. The antiques are still safe for all you collectors.

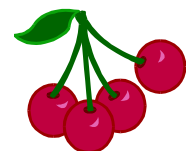
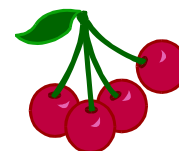
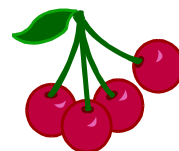
Sunday morning's breakfast was Micky D's. Bill and Jerry G. were the romantics of the group, taking their wives' food back to the room, so they could eat in bed. The rest of the guys took their wives along - we're pretty helpless without them and most of us wouldn't know what to order without consulting them first.

On Sunday we rode south for 28 miles, passing through Morrow and ending up in Loveland. This section of the trail was very scenic. We rode beside the Little Miami River; going under Interstate 75, and passing covered bridges, horse riding stables, and an old WWII ammunition plant. At our turn around in Loveland, we had a lunch break at the KoolCow. Prices were a little steep, so most people had snacks and ice cream. Ron & Malvery shared a bagel with peanut butter and honey (\$5.00). They thought that was a little high for a bagel, but felt fortunate when their food was served on a paper plate, and everybody else's was served on a napkin. They got the royal treatment.

A little headwind accompanied us back to the finish, but the sunny warm weather and colorful fall foliage made the weekend ride a great success and a whole lot of fun. Everyone had a wonderful time, and we are looking forward to next year.

2000 Membership Dues

All S.I.W. memberships are due January 1st. The \$9.00 single and \$12.00 family dues are a bargain. Please fill out the membership form found in this newsletter and mail it to Clarksville Schwinn. The club bylaws state that rider mileage won't be counted in 2000 until the dues are paid. Send your dues in early.



Cherry Pie Ride

Nancy Voelker

Nancy Voelker will host the Cherry Pie Ride at 2:00p.m. on Feb. 27. Nancy lives at 141 Forest Dr. in Jeffersonville. **Please R.S.V.P. at 283-9851.** There will be a 15-mile bike ride. **Everyone is Welcome!!!!!!**

River Walk Ride

TheKimers

Steve and Sharon Merker were great hosts back in November. After riding the Ohio River Walk Path from Cherokee Park to Shawnee Park and back, we were invited for refreshments and goodies to their wonderful home. Sharon had pastries, homemade cookies, hot chocolate, coffee, and soft-drinks waiting inside when we returned. Steve gave a tour of their restored early 19th century lovely home. Steve has a liking for antique clocks; their house was full with small and large ones everywhere, all in great working order. Now we know why Steve isn't late for rides - if only his memory could remember where they started. It was evident that Steve and Sharon were long time S.I.W. members, they served the hot beverages with their mileage mugs. The kitchen countertop was covered with mugs, some dating back to 1981. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the ride and the hospitality. Great job Steve and Sharon.

MILESTONES & GALLSTONES

TheKimers

1. Kristi fell mountain biking and cracked her jaw. The doctor wired her mouth shut for two weeks, or so he thought. Kristi had the wires removed after only two days.
2. Ron M. brags about the bulletproof wheels Bob built for the tandem (no problems in 12 years). Ron tries to see just how strong they are; he backs the truck over the front wheel. Lucky for Ron, Bob builds great wheels.
3. Kyle and Carrie have ridden their tandem since spring. They decide to ride their single bikes on the Scenic Miami Trail. Kyle asks Carrie if she'll be able to ride alone, without his physical support. After giving Kyle "the look", she shows the group and Kyle her great riding ability.
4. Ken, Jodi, Bob M., Ron, and Malvery hiked for 2 hours on the Knob Stone trail. The Sunday in December was warm with overcast skies. The last 2 hours of the hike, the skies opened up. Ken, Jodi, and Bob tested the waterproofness of their cotton sweatshirts. The group had a contest going, whose clothes could weigh the most at the end.