



THE SPROCKET

May – June 2016

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President's Message from Jeanne Garrison-Young

Spring has sprung with some great riding weather. Hopefully, the trend will continue. Be sure to check the schedules for special events and ride information. Also, note that the starting time for many rides has changed so be sure to verify that before you leave for the ride.

Some events I would like to highlight:

- Arrival of the new SIW Jerseys – The jerseys will be shipped around **May 6th**. **When they arrive, we will send out an email with pick-up information. Again, thanks to John Neichter for all of his work in the design of the shirt and for working with Voler on the order.** In total, we ordered 65 jerseys plus 6 other items.
- SIW Club Picnic – Our club picnic will be on Saturday, May 14th at the Clark State Forest in Henryville, first shelter house on the left (by the ball fields). There will be two rides available – the 45 mile ride starts at 8:30; the 25 mile ride at 10:00. Please bring a covered dish. We will eat around noon.
- SIW Club Meeting: Our next club meeting is Thursday, May 19th at the Clarksville Library. The meeting will start promptly at 6:00 pm. Let me know if you have items you would like to include on the agenda.
- Silver Creek "Century" - This "create your own ride" event will be on Saturday, June 11th. You can ride any combination of rides to get 15 to 100 miles credit and can start at any time between 7:30 am and 3:00 pm. We do require that you ride with at least one other person. Snacks and lunch will be provided.

I look forward to seeing you at our events and on our rides!

Jeanne



**Next Club Meeting
Thursday, March 19, 2016
Clarksville Library**

We will begin promptly at 6 pm.

**Come join us & support your
club.**

**Mark Your
Calendar!**

If your Club Membership Dues are not up to date, please send your check to [David Rausch, P O Box 9621, Louisville, KY 40209-9621](#), to ensure that your mileage will be counted.

UPCOMING EVENTS

See [Ride Schedules](#) for additional details

MAY DAY! MAY DAY! MAY DAY!

May 1 Harmonie Hundred, New Harmony, IN
May 1 Tour de Lou, Waterfront Park, Louisville, KY
May 1 Patoka Lake Ride, Somewhere on Patoka Lake Bar and Grill, IN

May 3 Dawn at the Downs, Louisville, KY
May 6 Arrival of the new SIW Jerseys – see President's Message on page 1.
May 14 S.I.W. Club Picnic, Henryville, IN
May 18 Ride of Silence, Louisville, KY
May 28 Horsey Hundred, Georgetown, KY
May 30 Mayor's Hike & Bike, Great Lawn, Louisville, KY

June 11 Silver Creek "Century", Silver Creek High School, Sellersburg, KY

If you are a bicyclist in the Southern Indiana/Louisville area and would like to ride with a great group of people with similar interests, come check us out! Just pick up a Southern Indiana Wheelmen or Slowspokes ride schedule from the Clarksville Schwinn bicycle shop. If you have any questions, please contact one of the club officers or visit our web site at www.siwheelmen.org.



Happy Birthday!!

<i>May</i>		<i>June</i>	
Deanna Smith	05/03	John Kaznak	06/01
Larry Gore	05/04	Jo Ellen Peers	06/01
Charles Hargis	05/05	Justin Quinn	06/01
Mary Ann Galbraith	05/06	Gary Johnson	06/02
Doug Franzdorf	05/07	Kristi Juliot	06/02
Lisa Holland	05/07	Patrick Yates	06/04
Phil Steinmetz	05/08	Joey Naville	06/09
Jim Morris	05/09	Paul Gruber	06/10
Gina Schneider	05/09	Richard Guittar	06/12
Catrina Small	05/11	Chuck Hartson	06/13
Sean Hyde	05/12	Lindsey Kaznak	06/13
Ann Bishop	05/14	Bill Hurley	06/16
Emori Carrara	05/14	Ron McKim	06/17
Sandra Jacobi	05/14	Missy Mountz	06/17
Edward Gootee	05/16	Carolyn Reilly	06/19
Ruth Ann Snyder	05/16	Sherri Thompson	06/19
Malvery McKim	05/17	Karen Forsee	06/22
Greg Rupp	05/18	Doris Herp	06/22
Nancy Jacobi	05/19	Alex Stewart	06/22
Edward Fritzinger	05/20	Todd Miller	06/23
Kim Decker	05/21	Melissa Hall	06/24
Randy House	05/21	Robert Harris	06/24
Hillary Forsee	05/25	Kurt Resener	06/24
Marla Huhnerkoch	05/25	Mike Jacobi	06/25
Michelle Hamilton	05/26	Nathan Domagalski	06/26
Roben Rosenberger	05/26	Jim Gladin	06/28
John Bell	05/29	Constance Small	06/29
Tony Duncan	05/29		
Brenda Gutmann	05/30		

Discovering the SIW Website:

On the top right side of the home page (<http://www.siwheelmen.org/>) and right below the Harvest Homecoming link is a link called [Sunrise/Sunset](#).

Clicking on this link brings up tons of info such as:

Sunrise, Sunset, and Moon Times for Today
Night, Twilight, and Daylight Times in Louisville Today
Equinoxes & Solstices 2016
Planets Visible in the Sky in Louisville This Coming Night

Below the Sunrise/Sunset link is the AccuWeather.com section. The “sunny side” section gives a current listing of the temperature, wind and weather conditions for Clarksville, IN.

Clicking on the [Weather Forecast](#) link shows:

Current Conditions and provides access to hourly conditions, weekend forecast, extended forecasts, etc.

Clicking on the [Weather Maps](#) link shows:

The United States Enhanced Satellite map which is interactive. You can click on Indiana or Kentucky to zoom in.

Clicking on the [Click Here For Current Radar Map](#) link shows:

The United States Weather Radar Map which is also interactive. Click on Indiana to zoom in.



A Look into the Past

Bob Peters handed the newsletter editor a handful of photo albums and suggested sharing the pictures via the newsletter. Many of the photos in these albums have no captions indicating names, dates, events or locations.

Readers are hereby challenged to provide any details you may have for these pictures.





Pedaling the Natchez Trace – contributed by Ed Gootee

Bill Horton casually asked if I would be interested in riding on the Natchez Trace Parkway. To his amazement, I said I would like to travel down there. The Natchez Trace Parkway is a national park that extends from Nashville, TN to Natchez, MS. It is 445 miles of highway with a max speed limit of 50 MPH. No commercial vehicles allowed. Riding along on the road is pleasant and the drivers courteous.

Bill and I elected to ride the southern section. My sister would be our base and she lived at about the half-way point. This meant that we would need to retrace our route to get back to Bill's truck. Total mileage was just shy of 500 miles.



Bill making eggs

We decided to camp and cook the majority meals. The national park system has several bike-only campgrounds. There was only one on our route and it was in the process of being moved. The site was nice but lacked running water.

Since I had never bike-camped before, every day was a learning experience.

Note to self: Never rely on a 35-year-old tent to be easily carried and remain waterproof during a forever thunderstorm. The National Park Service does not allow any commercial entities in the park. So groceries and other needs had to be planned excursions off the route. But we did manage to find a couple of really nice places to eat. French Camp, MS had some really good soups and sandwiches, plus their bakery had great cookies the size of small plates. We did that spot going down and coming back. We did the same at the Old Country Store in Lorman, MS. Southern country cooking buffet with the owner breaking into song was an added attraction. Unique atmosphere and really good pie are found there.

The road has many turnouts, usually one every 10-15 miles. With our extra loads we often rested for a few minutes to read the signs.



The sign at the southern end of the route. Bill looks chipper and I, well, not so much.



The Restaurant at French Camp



Catholic Basilica in Natchez

Spring had definitely arrived in that part of the world with wisteria, dogwood and redbuds in bloom. Plus hundreds of wild flowers along the road and in the fields and forests. With the light traffic it was easy to hear all the song birds making their way back north. It may have be flatter on the southern have but is was far from boring. Numerous swamps with bald cypress and pines growing out of the water and, as we approached Natchez, the Spanish moss appeared.

We spent two nights in Natchez in a motel. That was our rest day, though we spent most of the day wandering around the city looking at old buildings and churches. Natchez is on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River.

We ate lunch at Kings Tavern with some very fine craft beer. The building was built in 1789 and is the oldest structure in the city.

Along our travels we met a lot of interesting cyclists. There was a group from Indianapolis who were doing the entire route, being sagged by one member's wife. The most interesting couple was from Montreal. They left their home nearly 2 years ago on their bicycles riding to the most southern tip of South America. Climbing through the mountains of Peru, it took them all day to ride/push their bikes 3-4 miles. From them I learned how to pedal my bike more efficiently. Another fellow was going from New Orleans to Niagara by way of the Trace and then switching over to the Underground Railroad route to reach Detroit. He is a guide for whale watchers on Vancouver Island and is an avid mountain biker. He does have a driver's license, but he does not own a car.



There were a lot of things that happened and a lot of things that we learned about traveling self-supported which I will use on my next trip. Took too many clothes, tent needs to be lighter and more water repellent and need one more day (Because it is so much fun!)

Will I do it again? Yes, I will. Ask Bill Horton or me, Ed Gootee, about the great trip along the Natchez Trace Parkway.