

THE SPROCKET

FALL 2024

• PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE •

Welcome to Fall

Well, according to the calendar, it is almost fall. This summer seemed to fly by with some great weather (for the most part) and some great rides. Everyone is racking up the miles and we had another rider reach the 100,000 mile milestone, Joe Bolan. Congratulations, Joe!

There were some great out of town rides and one, Tour of Minnesota, was rained out. Always a gamble since none of us directly control the weather. RAGBRAI had much cooler and more comfortable weather than last year but had a lot more climbing and there was no rain. Regardless, there were some great local and out of town rides.

Next up is the Harvest Homecoming Ride September 28. Please check with Robenette Rosenberger to volunteer to help. Make sure to tell your friend's, at least those that ride bikes, about the ride. I consider it one of the prettiest series of rides in the region.

Make sure you attend the November meeting since there will be a couple of proposed changes for the SIW by-laws. You must be in attendance to vote and if you don't vote, don't complain. Rules and changes are made by majority vote so every vote counts.

Ride safely,
John Neichter
President

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WELCOME



NEW MEMBERS

Douglas Miller
Marta Hinson
Chuck Ellinger
Miranda Guenther
Brad Cooper
Robert Battista
Ken Atkins
Rhonda Rush
Edward Wade
Mindy Carter

Rush Carter
John Willoughby
Scott Buchanan
Jose Rodriguez
Julie Wilson
Alan McCoy
Joanna Bergum
Randy Murphy
Whitney Stiles



WELCOME



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NEXT BOARD MEETING

TBD

BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER

Roger Bauer
Barb Beach
Roger Bottorff
Bernie Campbell
Brian Christoff
Tom Coulter
Amanda Eddleman
Alison Ewart
Susie Hammond
Marcia Koetter
Andrea Neichter
Shawn Quast
Mary Ann Reynolds
Mark Rieger
Phil Samuel
Jim Shelton

Bryan Baker
Clare Burkhart
David Campbell
Jessica Christoff
Terry Donovan
Brad Farrell
Anne Fogle
Timothy Gettelfinger
Bob Hamilton
Robert Hogan
Janet Jacobi
Denny Leffler
Judy Lowe
Kristie Madison
Leslie Malony
Matthew Metzler
Leah Ann Poindexter
Christine Stickler
Michael Truitt
Stan Wheeler

Phyllis Andres
John Bargerhuff
Cindy Barranco
Joe Bolan
Jan Campbell
Matthew Eddleman
Charles Edelen
Woodrow Elliot
John Evers
Bob Gable
Bill Horton
Robert Norcross, II
Ray Thomas
Michael Wright

Deborah Davis
Bill Fible
Joan Gilley
Ron Loughmiller
David Rausch
Lewis Reyman
Macy Ross

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PHOTO GALLERY



AMISH LAND



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RAGBRAI



This was the 51st year for the RAGBRAI ride in Iowa and it was billed as a "hilly year" with over 18,000 feet of climbing in a week with 450 miles or riding. None of the hills were really that bad (no Blunk Knob or Corydon Ridge) but mainly never ending rollers. The weather was warm but if you were on the road early, it was not too bad and it never rained or was very windy. The SIW group was smaller this year as was the ride in general with the overall numbers being around 16,000 versus last year's 20,000.

"It was one of the funnest rides this year with a good group and great weather," commented Joe Gutmann.





SUPERMAN



Congratulations to Joe Bolan on his under 10-hour finish on RAIN. This included all stops, a flat tire and a broken pump. Our club Superman



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MINNESOTA



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WISCONSIN



Thoughts on a bike in Wisconsin

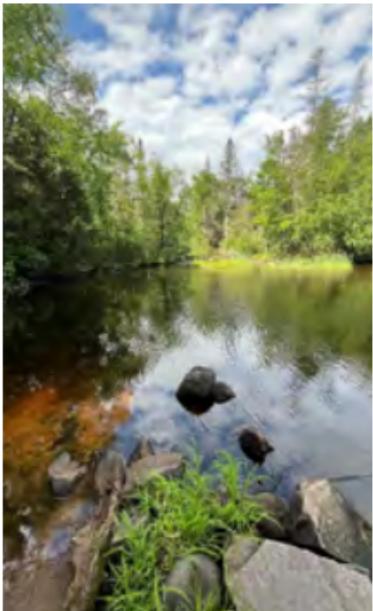
As I ride through the country side, I enjoy the changes in the scenery caused by nature and man. Okay not all the changes made by humans. I ride at my own pace and I don't talk a lot when others are nearby. Not because I am antisocial but I cannot handle multiple tasks without courting disaster. And I reflected on the ride in Wisconsin.

Some club members were on a bike tour in Wisconsin hosted by PAWS. Jim and Debbie Shelton were the ride captains. Other riders were Tim and Jenny Gettelfinger, Mike Poindexter, Dennis Campbell and me. I had been there about 5 years ago and the major change was the improved riding surface. The terrain is comparable to ours: rolling hills with a few climbs but nothing steep. We stayed in motels which was nice. For those with e-bikes, it was a bonus not to be searching for a charging station. We managed to have good weather for the 7 days. There were lots of lakes and lots of lakeside cabins. Of course the occasional small town with an ice cream stop and cute stores. I found the boat lift over a dam very interesting. It is privately owned which surprised me. And of course you have the resident monster called the Hodag.





WISCONSIN



As a group there were numerous sightings of wildlife but no bears or moose. Lots of flowers both wild and in gardens were along the road sides. It all created a very pleasant backdrop for our rides. Of course after the rides we met a lot of different people at the happy hour before supper. One lady has been making pieces of art out of the old chains, sprockets and other discarded bike parts. Her most recent project was making wind chimes. She apologized for not having an example to show me. We swapped stories and expanded truths about other adventures as we had our adult beverages.

On a sad note Mike's bike got sick. It contracted the dreaded mystery noise syndrome. The bottom bracket needed to have the bearings replaced. We all offered our hopes and prayers for a speedy recovery. Mike was soon back on the bike waving for me to catch up as he crested the hill in front of us, very far in front of me.

There were many adventures that will only come out after more than a few beers or bottles of wine. It is a tour worth doing again. Third time is the charm!





MONON



On July 16, SIW members gathered at the Borden Community Park to celebrate the Monon South Trail groundbreaking ceremony.

The threat of rain prevented a group of riders of arriving in true bike fashion but Joe Gutmann was proud to arrive on his bike, the closest ride start ever to his house! The new trail will span 62 miles. It starts in Mitchell and will end in New Albany.





CLUB PICNIC



On July 13, the heat didn't keep us away from both the club picnic ride and the delicious meal after. Thanks to everyone who made this possible. Looking forward to next year!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Harvest Homecoming Ride

**Saturday
September 28**

See You There!



ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS

If you are interested in submitting pictures or an article to The Sprocket Newsletter please contact Peggy Bannon at pannbann@gmail.com

JOIN IN THE FUN

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.

Additional information on bicycling in Indiana can be found by contacting

BICYCLE INDIANA

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www.bicycleindiana.org