



Illinois Red Hawk Riders

a Chapter of Women on Wheels®

Officers

Lynda DiGregor
Director/Web Guru

Suzanne Palm
Co-Director/Newsletter Editor

Martha Alexander
Treasurer

Maxine Smith
Secretary

**Marge Thiessen,
Maureen Shreeves
& Debi Horner**
Ride Coordinators

August 18th Meeting

WAS ATTENDED BY A FEW MEMBERS including Lynda DiGregor, Sue Geis, Sue McDonald, Maxine Smith, Susan Snyder & Art, and Suzanne Palm.

Major topics of discussion included the upcoming Davis Rally, Fischer's 11th Annual Pony Express Run, the Woodstock Swap Meet, and fund-raisers to help WINGS (Women in Need Growing Stronger) as well as the Red Hawk Riders.

Due to inclement weather on this particular meeting day, Sue & Ron's After-Meeting ride to Watson's Wild West of Elkhorn, Wisconsin was rescheduled for September 15th.

Upcoming Rides

23rd Annual Davis Rally
New Hampton, Iowa
September 7, 8 & 9

The Luci Davis & The Davis Family Rally, always held the weekend after Labor Day, opens Friday at 7:00 a.m. and continues on through Sunday--rain or shine.

Located about 240 miles away in New Hampton, Iowa, this rally is a good opportunity to meet other Women On Wheels groups.

There will be something for everyone to enjoy: live bands all weekend, dancing nightly, daily cash prize drawings, adult and kid games and prizes, a sunset cruise, guided scenic tours, dinner rides, "Bikin' for Bucks," Amish tours, self-guided tours, and a parade, just to name a few of the scheduled events.

Plan to camp out at the Boy Scout East Park Campsite. 4000 bikers and 80+ vendors are expected so make plans now.

Cost: \$20.00 (\$1.00 AMA discount)
Meals not provided. Attendees must be 16 to register (kids under 16 are free). For housing assistance, call 641-394-2311.

Thank you, Marge and David Thiessen, for bringing this event to our attention. If anyone is interested in attending this rally, please call Lynda or Suzanne to coordinate details.

upcoming rides continues...

CHAPTER MEETINGS

When: We meet *every third Saturday of every month*. Currently, our meeting time is **9:00 a.m.** Meetings usually last an hour or so. If you'd like to have breakfast at the meeting, please be sure to come a half an hour earlier.

Where: The **Colonial Cafe** at 6000 NW Hwy (Rte. 14) in Crystal Lake, Illinois. For more information or directions, e-mail us or try the MapBlast form on our web site (<http://www.geocities.com/wowheels>). Hope to see you there!

NEXT MEETING:
Saturday, September 15, 2001

Illinois Red Hawk Riders — a Chapter of Women On Wheels®
Web site: <http://www.geocities.com/wowheels>
E-mail: wowheels@yahoo.com
Snail Mail: PO Box 736, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

upcoming rides continued...

After-Meeting Ride

Watson's Wild West

September 15

Immediately following our September meeting, we plan to take a ride to Watson's Wild West in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. A hearty thanks goes out to Sue McDonald & Ron for organizing this one. Hope ya'll can make it--it should be lots of fun! YeeeeeHaa!

What's Happening?

Fischer's 11th Annual Pony Express Run

Elgin, Illinois

September 9

920 S. McLean Boulevard, Elgin, Illinois. 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. sign-up. Cost: \$15.00

Woodstock Swap Meet

Woodstock, Illinois

September 30

Located at the Woodstock Fairgrounds, as usual. If you're looking for riding or biking accessories, a bike, or parts for an existing bike, come to the Woodstock Swap Meet; they'll probably have what you're looking for.

Meeting place & time to be discussed at the September meeting. (See our Illinoisredhawkriders1 yahoo group list for last minute details.)

Fund Raising Opportunities

WINGS (Women In Need Growing Stronger) recently had it's annual fund raising poker run. Susan Snyder has volunteered to investigate the possibility of our (Red Hawk Riders) contribution to and involvement with the charity's efforts next year. Thanks, Susan!

Maxine Smith suggested we (Red Hawk Riders) organize a garage sale to raise money for the Sparrow's Nest

(our chosen charity) as well as our own treasury. Good suggestion! You can bet we'll be discussing this venture in the weeks to come.

Red Hawk Riders Business

WOW Membership

Don't forget to check your WOW Membership expiration date and be sure to keep it current!

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas

Red Hawk Riders Christmas Party

Christmas may seem a long way off right now, but soon autumn will be here, school will start, schedules will get busy, Thanksgiving will come and go, and before we know it, Christmas will be upon us.

Last year, we had our Christmas party at a bowling alley in Crystal Lake. We all brought tasty food to share, bowled, ate too much, and had a lot of fun together.

Because of the "busyness" of December, we will plan for a Saturday, December 15th party date in lieu of our regularly scheduled monthly meeting. If anyone has any suggestions or ideas about how our Christmas party could be spent this year, please let Lynda or Suzanne know.

"Been There, Done That"

8th Annual Quad-State Camp-out Ontario, Wisconsin

The Quad-State Camp-out at the Stray Cat Cycle Campground on Highway 33, just outside of Wildcat Mountain State Park in Ontario, Wisconsin was a fun ride and we were able to meet

some nice and interesting WOW folks from the Wisconsin area, some of whom we met previously at the 2001 motorcycle show WOW booth. Below are a couple accounts of the trip--one from the group who left Friday morning and the other from the group who left Saturday morning.

Friday Morning Group:

Marge, David, "Lil Sue" and I left Crystal Lake around 9:30 or so on Friday morning and Dave, true to form, led us on another spectacular ride to Ontario and then on to Sparta. It was a bit hazy to start but that soon burned off and the day was bright and beautiful. We stopped at Yellowstone Lake State Park for a break.



Marge and David with Mandy

We stopped in Ontario at the Stay Cat Cycle campground to say hello to the other chapters that showed up and then went on to



Marge, Lynda, Debi, Jim

Sparta to check in to our hotel room. The hotel was pretty decent. Pool and jacuzzi was greatly appreciated. We were happily surprised to find that Maxine and Dave were there and we also hooked up with Debi and Jim. They stayed in a campground somewhere in the area. We all went out to dinner at a local pub/restaurant and had a great time there.

Next morning we all decided to ride the

Great River Road to Alma. Again the riding was something else. We rode 108 to get to the River and we all wanted to do it again. We also stopped at a scenic overlook of the Upper Mississippi River. If we didn't know before we certainly know now why it's the "Great River" On the way back, Maxine and Dave went their own way as did Debi and Jim.

Marge, David, Lil Sue and I wanted to make some stops on the way back. We stopped in at the National Eagle Center and we saw two injured Eagles up close and personal. We also wanted to see a hand carved and hand painted carousel along the way. We were not disappointed. It was amazing. David, ever the child at heart, took a ride on the carousel and just couldn't stop grinning. We finally arrived at the hotel and we took a little break to get refreshed and then headed out to the Stray Cat Cycle campground to meet up with Suzanne and Mike, who arrived earlier in the day.

The group there was definitely crazy and we all had a good time. The next

countryside. 'Lil Sue you were a great roommate and a great riding partner. Gotta do it again soon.

-- Lynda

Saturday Morning "Group":

Mike & I began our trip to Ontario around 8:00 a.m. heading up Rt. 12 into Wisconsin to I-90--the fast route--to catch up with the others who had left the day before.



Farmland

from the other chapters while enjoying a dinner of sloppy joes, chips, pickles and cookies.

Soon Lynda, David, Marge and "Lil Sue" arrived and finished up whatever was left of dinner. After dinner, they had a raffle--I won a stuffed frog (frogs seemed to be quite popular with that group!).

All in all, it was a nice afternoon. We had an excellent ride, the weather was sunny and warm, and we had a pleasant visit with all the WOW folks.

We also wanted to return via the Great River Road. However, since we had just arrived on Saturday, we decided to relax and take our time on the return ride. Our day began around 10:00 a.m. with breakfast at the diner across the



Sue, Dave, Maxine

morning David, Marge, 'Lil Sue and I left for home at around 8:15 after breakfast at the diner across the street from the hotel. Maxine and Dave left later and Suzanne and Mike were working at a more leisurely pace.

Mike and Suzanne

When we arrived at the Sparta Super8 around 1:00 p.m. and found that the rest of the group had gone out for a ride, we took the opportunity to clean up a bit before leaving to meet the other WOW folks in Ontario. On the way there, we passed through the rolling hills of Amish country and even saw a couple of the Amish in their horse-drawn carriages on the highway.

At the Stray Cat Cycle Campground, there were several tents set up outside an old stone and wood cow barn. A smattering of people from both Illinois and Wisconsin were there but no one was there from Minnesota or Iowa, so it was really more of a "Bi-State" Rally.

Anyway, Mike and I had a pleasant time getting to know some of the folks



Mississippi River

street from the hotel before beginning our journey down the twisty, winding Wisconsin and Illinois roads. There sure was a lot of beautiful countryside to take in and appreciate that sweltering day. My hot weather advice: stop often for lots of water and ice cream.

-- Suzanne

To see more pics, visit our web site.

The ride home was an experience in itself. We rode the Great River Road for about 50 miles. It was beautiful. The river is huge, it is covered in places with water lilies and there are little islands all over the place. After lunch at New Glarus, we decided to go the fastest way home and we broke up in Harvard. I had a great time and want to thank David and Marge for routing us through some of the most beautiful



To help us get to know each other a little better, this new feature article will introduce a different Illinois Red Hawk Rider member each month.

This month's featured member is Lynda DiGregor, Director and Web Site Guru for the Illinois Red Hawk Riders.

Lynda, where do you call home?

I live in Crystal Lake, Illinois although I still consider California home.

Tell us a bit about yourself (i.e. your occupation, hobbies, significant other, children, pets, etc.)

I'm married to Ralph. We've been married for 19 years. I have two daughters, Sylvia 28 and Andrea 27. Both married with children and living in Texas. Ralph and I have two sons, Tony, 18 and Dominic, 13.

I drive a school bus as a means of supporting my computer

habit/hobby. I also design web sites for small business and motorcycle clubs. Although I've been designing web sites for 5 or more years, I am working towards a web-master certificate at McHenry County College.

I enjoy gardening and always have a vegetable garden each year. Of course motorcycling takes up a good part of my time during the riding season.

When did you start riding and why?

I started riding 1997/98 and I started riding on the insistence of my husband. He felt I should know how to ride in the event of an emergency when riding with him.

Of course once I started riding myself I no longer wanted to be a passenger.

What motorcycles have you owned and what do you currently own (year/make/model, nickname)?

I learned on a 198? Honda 650,

then purchased a 1996 Yamaha Virago 750, called it the baby bike. I now ride a Kawasaki Vulcan Classic 1500.

What do you like best about your current motorcycle?

It's great on long trips and it freaks a lot of men out, especially those riding smaller bikes. I'm cruel.

What's your favorite kind of riding (i.e. around town, long road trips, solo rides, etc.) and why?

I'm up for anything but I guess I like road trips of 300 miles or so (round trip). Why? because I get somewhere and I have a chance to settle in and enjoy the ride. I like company but I really haven't ridden anywhere without someone along.

What have you learned that makes you a better rider today than when you first started riding?

I've learned to relax a bit.

What's the best motorcycle trip you've ever taken and where did you go?

That's a hard one. All the trips are the best at the time. I like Galena and we most recently had a great time riding Tennessee.

Where would you like to go on your next motorcycle trip?

I would like to ride the Route 66 tour next June. Anyone willing?

What's the best advice you could give your fellow women on wheels?

Don't be fearful of riding but respect the fact that riding is a dangerous sport and should be treated as such.

Thank you Lynda!

Next month's featured member will be Marge Thiessen.