



Illinois Red Hawk Riders

a chapter of Women on Wheels®

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Lynda DiGregor

Director/Web Designer

Suzanne Palm

Co-Director
Newsletter Editor
Secretary

Martha Alexander

Treasurer

Susan Snyder

Secretary

Marge Thiessen

David Thiessen

Ride Coordinators

March 16th Meeting

WAS WELL-ATTENDED by many, including Ingrid Enriquez, Lynda and Ralph DiGregor, Valerie Money, Suzanne Palm, Donna Pronto, Maxine Smith, Susan and Art Snyder, Marge and David Thiessen, Coleen Wood, and Shelle and Dwayne Young.

It was great to see such a good turn out even though it wasn't warm enough for most of us to ride...most of us, that is, except Valerie, who couldn't wait to take her brand-spankin' new V-Star out for a spin! Woohoo Valerie! We know one lucky woman who is reeeaaaally looking forward to the new riding season!

But then again, aren't we all?

Upcoming Rides

First Ride of the Season!

April 20

Yay! The first ride of the season will be an after-meeting-ride on Saturday, April

20th, around the Rock River. This ride, coordinated by Marge and David, will be in honor of Susan Geis (aka Lil' Sue), who will be leaving us shortly to take her new post in the Washington area. For more info about Sue, see the "Member Corner" article in our Sept/Oct 2001 issue.



CHAPTER MEETINGS

When: We meet **every third Saturday of every month at 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 little earlier.

Where: The **Colonial Cafe** at 6000 NW Hwy. (Rte. 14) in Crystal Lake, Illinois. For more information, e-mail us or try the MapQuest link on our web site at: www.redhawkriders.com. Hope to see you there!

NEXT MEETING:
April 20, 2002

Illinois Red Hawk Riders — a chapter of Women On Wheels®

PO Box 736, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Web site: www.redhawkriders.com

E-mail: lynda@redhawkriders.com

Group List: Illinoisredhawkriders1@yahoogroups.com suzanne@redhawkriders.com

Women On Wheels 16th International Ride-In Gilbertsville, Kentucky July 9, 10, 11

Lodging:

We have 2 six-person cottages reserved for this event. Confirmation and payment have to be in by June 15th. With six people per cottage, the total per-person for lodging would be \$95.79 or \$31.93 per day.

If the cottages are not filled by us, they will be offered to the Northwind Riders. Camping is also available.

Registration Info:

If anyone needs the registration form for this event, it can be download from our web site at www.redhawkriders.com

upcoming rides continues...

upcoming rides continued...

Cost:

If you register before May 15th: \$22.00.

If you register after May 15th: \$32.00.

There is also a Kentucky Opry for \$10.00 and a Thursday night banquet for \$25.00 to consider.

More Information:

You can get more Ride-In information from your WOW magazine or from the Women On Wheels web site at www.womenonwheels.org.

Little Angels Run

Elgin, Illinois

Sunday, May 19th

We are happy to be attending the Little Angels Run this year as a group. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Denny's on Route 31 by the Springhill mall before the ride. Be gassed up and ready to go!

The 100-mile ride will begin and end at Elgin Community College.

Cost:

If you sign up by April 30th: \$20.

If you sign up by May 18th: \$30.

If you sign up the day of the ride: \$35.

There will be food and beverages as well as a variety of motorcycle and cash raffles. It should be lots of fun but the best part is that we will be helping to raise money for children with profound disabilities and complex medical needs.

Thank you, Coleen, for providing information and sign-up sheets for this worthwhile cause.

WINGS Poker Run

Sunday, June 2

The next WINGS (Women In Need Growing Stronger) poker run is scheduled for June 2. Let's all plan to be there as a group. Susan will provide us with more information as the date approaches.

IRHR Business

Illinois Red Hawk Riders Got a New URL

Now you can easily find us at www.redhawkriders.com!

WOW Membership Renewals

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

Information Updates

Remember to send Suzanne your new WOW membership expiration date as well as any other new or changed information, such as phone number, address, e-mail, etc. so that the IRHR database can be kept up to date.

New WOW Members

Welcome Donna Pronto, Valerie Money, and Jessica Money, the newest members of Women On Wheels® Yahooooo!

WOW/IRHR Flags

Valerie is donating her time and talent to make us WOW/IRHR flags for display on our bikes. This is a great form of advertisement for our chapter and will give us a more unified look when we're out riding as a group. All she asks is that we cover the cost of her materials (a couple of dollars, that's all). No problem, Valerie!

Secretary Nominated

Susan Snyder accepted the position of Secretary at the Saturday, March 16th meeting. Congratulations, Susan, and thank you for volunteering!

What's Happening?

Experienced Riders Course

Elgin, Illinois

Saturday, June 15

(in lieu of regular meeting)

Everyone who signed up for this activity should have their instruction packet from ECC by now. Please be sure to follow their instructions carefully.

Plan to meet at Elgin Community College **by 7:30 a.m. at the latest**. There will be no regular meeting that day. (Ralph will go to Colonial to meet any new members that may show up. Thanks, Ralph!)

If anyone finds they won't be able to attend, let Lynda know asap so that others can attend in your place.

Ordering books from Amazon.com?

Go to the amazon.com link on our redhawkriders.com web site to place your order and our chapter will get a percentage of the sale. Way to earn money for our group, Lynda!

Upcoming Swap Meets

April 28 and June 9

More information to come...

WOW CHAPTER POLICY

Any member of Women On Wheels® is welcome to participate with any chapter in all chapter functions. Guests are more than welcome also. We encourage all interested guests to join Women On Wheels®, as our constitution clearly states that, "Membership in any chapter will be dependent upon current membership in good standing with Women On Wheels®." Application forms are available in the Women On Wheels® magazine, from any chapter officer, or from our web site at www.redhawkriders.com.

There are no dues for membership in the Illinois Red Hawk Riders but we do request an annual \$20.00 donation to cover postage, paper, and copying costs if you wish to continue receiving this newsletter. Only the first three issues will be complimentary.



Marge Thiessen (and Mandy) on her Harley Davidson Low Rider.

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 WOW member is Marge Thiessen, Ride Coordinator.

I have lived in Woodstock for the past 10 years and retired 2 years ago as a Flower Shop Manager. Now I help out in various departments during busy times only which is great!! I started riding passenger once I met David about 14 years ago. I was curious how he "drove" the machine so I took the Motorcycle Safety Class in 1989 and much to my surprise I passed?? Then I needed a bike. In the Spring of 1990, I purchased my first Harley, an 883 sportster. I had much to learn about riding but we took some great rides and I certainly enjoyed it. As the years passed, the rides got longer and the Sportster just wasn't that comfortable, so in 1996 I purchased my current Harley Low Rider.

We have enjoyed some great trips (one long one each year) with the Illinois Prairie Voyagers. These trips included the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Black Hills, West Virginia, the upper peninsula of Michigan, etc. We have also taken some recent year trips with the Gold Wing Group to Michigan and Springfield, Missouri. I enjoy these long trips the best. Our toy poodle, Mandy, travels with us most of the time and is a great traveler and camper! She rides in her crate, which is bungied on to the back seat of David's Gold Wing.

Riding allows you to feel very much part of the landscape around you. You smell the smells of sweet flowers, such as clover and lilacs along the way. I love the canopies of trees over small country roads, and the scents of the forests with pine needles. When riding along a winding

mountain stream, I want to stop and soak my feet while watching the water spill over the rocks. Besides the ride, setting up camp, then cooking dinner with other riders and then sitting around a camp fire is a really good feeling.

A few weeks ago we rode with the Illinois Prairie Voyagers to Springfield, Illinois to camp and see the sights. One day we rode south to Litchfield and along the route were short areas of Route 66 from the 1926 to 1930 era. Some sections were brick with the grass growing up between them. Other sections were concrete, very old and narrow with sharp turns. I have wanted to ride Route 66 the full length. Much of the road is no longer in existence but it still would be fun to pick and choose areas to ride and sights of the past to visit.

I think we learn all the time how to be a better rider. Talking with other riders and discussions at rallies, reading the magazines and watching videos as we recently did, all help us think about dangers and plan for escapes. I have found having the CB is really great. When in a group, the leader can warn of dangers or great sights. We need to ride staggered, keep a safe distance and never out-ride our skills. During group rides we need to be aware of various riders limitations and adjust our ride so that all can be comfortable and enjoy the ride safely.

Enjoy!!
Margaret K. Thiessen

Thanks, Marge!
Our next newsletter will feature WOW member and Secretary, Susan Snyder.

See you next time!



Illinois **Red Hawk Riders 2002 Schedule**

a chapter of Women On Wheels®

- March 16 **Meeting at 10:00 a.m.**
Impromptu ride, weather permitting.
- April 20 **Meeting time changes to 9:00 a.m.**
Our Lil Sue Ride. Come bid our friend a fond farewell. Sue is being transferred.
David and Marge are ride coordinators.
- May 18 **Meeting at 9:00 a.m.**
Maxine to organize the after-meeting-ride.
- May 19 **Little Angels Charity Ride**
Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Denny's on Rte. 31 by the Springhill Mall.
Be sure your bike is all gassed up and ready to go.
- June 2 **WINGS.** This is a charity function we would like to support this year as a group.
More information to come.
- June 15 **Experienced Riders Course**
Elgin Community College from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Participants should be there by 7:30 a.m. at the latest.
There will be no regular meeting this month.
- July 9, 10, 11 **WOW International Ride-In**
Gilbertsville, Kentucky.
Two cottages have been reserved. Six persons per cottage.
Deadline for reservation and payment is June 15th.
Contact Lynda as soon as possible if you want to participate in this activity.
- July 20 **Meeting at 9:00 a.m.**
Volunteer needed to organize the after-meeting-ride.
- August 9, 10, 11 **Fond du Lac Ride**
Camping at KOA and pontoon boat at Green Lake.
Ralph, Art, and Susan will organize this activity. *More info to come.*
- August 17 **Meeting at 9:00 a.m.**
Donna to organize the after-meeting-ride.
- September 6, 7, 8 **Davis Rally**
New Hampton, Iowa. Camping/tenting. Meals eaten out.
Many Vendors on site. Rides & Entertainment. 240 miles each way.
Contact Marge or David if you want to participate in this activity.
- September 21 **Meeting at 9:00 a.m.**
Volunteer needed to organize the after-meeting-ride.
- October 19 **Meeting at 9:00 a.m.**
Kettle Moraine Color Ride organized by David.
- November 16 **Meeting time changes to 10:00 a.m.**
Impromptu ride, weather permitting.
- December Christmas plans TBD. Please think about this.
- Note to Membership:** Volunteers are needed for after-meeting-rides. Spreading the ride planning around gets us to places we may not have thought to visit.
Please, don't be shy. Volunteer!