

DEC '77

WISCONSIN TOUR-EPILOG

Monday morning, when Dean Arney and I got up at 6:00, the pavement around the Governor Dodge Inn was dry and it stayed that way until we took the bikes outside and put on the panniers. From then until past Hanover, IL. 40 miles south, the rain varied from light to moderate and was continuous. From there on it was misty to threatening. The temperature was in the mid 40's to start with, much like Sunday, but with the torso warm riding was not uncomfortable and by the time we reached the Clinton area it was warm enough to remove gloves. We had a southeasterly wind and this held for the 110 miles from Platteville to the Quad Cities. After the two days of riding the hills around Platteville the trip home was comparatively very flat with only a few good hills in the Galena area. Dean and I split up at Clinton. Dean went down the Iowa side to avoid crossing on the I 80 bridge while I continued down the Illinois side. I rode into my yard at 5:30. The Friday through Monday riding totaled 380 miles.

It was a great four days, though the weather Saturday, Sunday, and Monday could have been a bit better and the Wisconsin colors more at their peak but we were riding and that's the name of the game. The other plus was the good group of people on the ride and for me I couldn't have had a better riding buddy for the four days than Dean. I've had some long rides and some tough rides with Dean this year. On the Muscatine Century in September he literally carried me on his back from Iowa City to Muscatine against a stiff headwind and last Sunday outside Beektown, Wisconsin he stopped in that bone chilling wind and rain to help me change a tube. Not much I can do in return so just thanks Dean. Along with some other bike clubbers Dean has made this a memorable year for me. For those club members who haven't ridden with the club much, this is one of the big things you have missed.

Jim Hanson

RIDE REPORT: OCTOBER 30

It was riders choice and some had ridden up to LeClaire, some rode to Folletts on the river road and the majority bike to Camanche. The weather was just right for gloves and a hat which most of us wore but Bob Bizzel was without either and said he felt great. (Dean-you've got another partner) The group included Bob, Don Horton, Jim Smith, Steve Smith, Jay Witmer and Carter. It was nice to have Jim Smith with his 2 fine sons-Steve and David so many times this past year. Hope you'll make it weekly. This was a 6 mile stage ride. 6 miles to Princeton- 6 miles to Folletts- 6 miles to Camanche- 6 miles back to Folletts- 6 miles to McCausland- 6 miles to Argo- and 6 miles back to LeClaire. A rest and refreshment stop at each 6 miles except for Argo. Can't someone get the store in Argo to open up on Saturday and Sunday? This would be an excellent winter route-just the right mileage to get in and warm up the feet. All in all- a nice last weekend in October for biking.

RIDE REPORT: OCTOBER 31

Ken Davie, Fred Blessin, Devin Walla, Carter LeBeau, Bob Bannish and Mary Shanks met at Eldridge on the last day of daylight savings time. Those who biked in left in the dark and saw the sun rise beautifully that morning-dictating a great weather day was ahead. It was a perfect day. This was the first club ride for Mary Shanks from Clinton and all agreed she could ride with us anytime as long as she guaranteed the same weather.