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**June 2020**



**Rollin'**

THE NEWSLETTER OF SILVER WHEELS CYCLING CLUB

**Your Current Leadership Team**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Sue Wells</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Cheryl Burkhardt</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Rick Wells</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Sandy Lottman</b>
<b>Membership:</b>	<b>Randy Lottman</b>
<b>Website Coordinator:</b>	<b>Tom Weber</b>
<b>Merchandise:</b>	<b>José Morell</b>
<b>Sunshine:</b>	<b>Dennis Stout</b>
<b>Mileage Minder:</b>	<b>Wesley Simmons</b>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	<b>Steve Osmialowski</b>
<b>Ride Committee:</b>	<b>Dennis Stout</b>
<b>Social Committee:</b>	<b>Karen Hobbs</b>
<b>Education/Safety:</b>	<b>Peggy Doheny</b>
<b>Dog Days:</b>	<b>Scott Edmundson</b>
<b>Physical Assets:</b>	<b>Emily Townsend</b>
<b>Social Media:</b>	<b>Rob Hipskind and Cheryl Burkhardt</b>

**Directors:** Peggy Doheny, Rob Hipskind, Scott Edmundson, Bill Mansfield

*See the club roster for specific contact information*

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## From The Editor

Well, another month has gone by without any Silver Wheels activities. I know this is frustrating for our members especially with the warm, sunny cycling weather. Hopefully all our members are following recommendations to stay safe from the virus but also finding time to get outside and ride. This can be done by riding solo, with a spouse or even a few friends. Getting fresh air and exercise is important and needed by all of us. Keeping those legs in shape will mean an easy transition when we do get back to group riding. When will that happen? More on that from the article from Sue in this issue.

*Steve*



I am pretty certain that I speak for everyone when I say that I never could have imagined what 2020 would bring. First the Covid-19 virus and most recently all the social unrest across our country.

I naively thought that the hardest time of my presidency was over after I had the task of cancelling the 2018 Awards Banquet. Oh no, there was more fun in store for me! I have had to cancel all club events and rides for the present time. This sadly included the Dog Days Wine Tour. This is the first, and hopefully only, time for this to be cancelled.

We have all had to make many adjustments and changes as to how we do things during the quarantine. Some things have worked surprisingly well, others not so much. We have had the past three Board Meetings via email. We did entertain using Zoom. Email seemed to work for us as there has not been much we have needed to discuss, other than when we can resume club events.

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**We once again looked at resuming club activities a few weeks ago as Governor DeWine started opening businesses in the state. It was a very productive discussion. There were some good ideas and suggestions. We were all in agreement that we continue with no club events for the present time.**

**We have been using the guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health, Governor DeWine, and the League of American Bicyclists. I recently received a correspondence from the League with some interesting facts. I have copied part of this. I think the toolkit is a good resource and worth the time to read.**

**COVID-19 has had a profound impact on us and our partners. From countless events canceled, including our own National Bike Summit, to the explosive growth of bike sales and reorienting of cities for social distancing. We want to be totally clear that riding right now is safe and a part of our fundamental human need for recreation. Our Executive Director Bill Nesper suggests ways to help encourage new riders in our blog today. We also want to pass along some helpful tips for riding during this time of pandemic:**

- Follow the guidance of your local health department and the CDC**
- If you're feeling ill, please stay home**
- Ride alone or with members of your household. Follow local guidelines for expanding your social network, but please keep in mind the safest rides are solo**
- Try to maintain six feet of space from others**
- Wash your hands frequently**
- Avoid spitting, an uncovered cough, nasal drip, or other droplet transmission**
- Wear an athletic mask or cycling buff that covers your nose and mouth when riding around others**

**Many are asking when it's safe to resume group rides. While we'd love to give all groups a simple 'yes' or 'no,' the answer isn't quite that simple. The League represents groups from all over the country - from urban centers to rural counties that may have only reported a handful of infections. In terms of club rides, please follow the best practices of your local health department and follow our tips above.**

**For larger events, our friends at USA Cycling put out a helpful toolkit, including a self-assessment and checklists. We recommend you consult this guidance when determining your course of action for planning/executing large events. It's also a good idea to consult with your local health department and keep an eye on peer events scheduled around the same weeks. All this said, large gatherings aren't likely to take place until a vaccine or advanced treatment for COVID is widely available.**

**I wish I had an exact date to give you as to when the club will resume rides, but is just not possible at this time. Please know that I and the Board are continuing to monitor this virus as it affects our club.**

**I apologize for the length of this. I wanted everyone to be aware of where the club stands as of now and know that the Board is doing all that we can as**

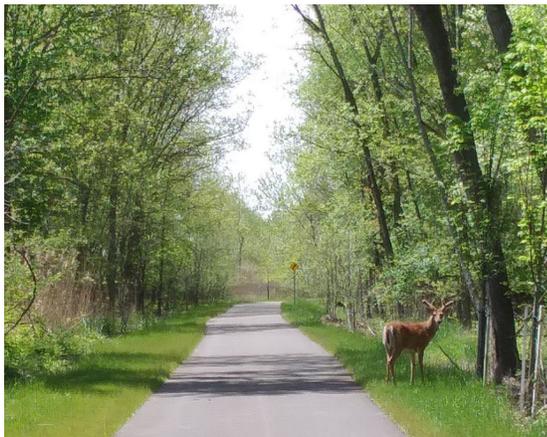
**we navigate through this. I have received emails, texts, and calls from club members offering me their support and encouragement. I am very appreciative of this; it is one of the things that make me happy that I am a Silver Wheeler.**

**Don't let this virus ruin your long awaited summer. Enjoy the fresh air, take a walk, ride your bike, garden, or anything that you enjoy. Don't forget to help Steve out by submitting articles for Rollin'. Stay safe and healthy and I will continue to keep you informed.**

**Sue**

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**The Black River Trail extension is now open! You can catch this where the trail used to end at Colorado Ave in Sheffield village. It continues east for about one mile into Lorain. Here are a couple views of this scenic trail:**





**The Ride of Silence was to be held on May 20. I'm sure most ROS events were cancelled this year, just like ours was. Let's remember those tragically killed while cycling over the years. This is the traditional ROS poem:**

*Tonight we number many but ride as one  
In honor of those not with us, friends, mothers, fathers, sisters, sons  
With helmets on tight and heads down low,  
We ride in silence, cautious and slow  
The wheels start spinning in the lead pack  
But tonight we ride and no one attacks  
The dark sunglasses cover our tears  
Remembering those we held so dear  
Tonight's ride is to make others aware  
The road is there for all to share  
To those not with us or by our side,  
May God be your partner on your final ride*



## **FOURTH OF JULY EVENT CANCELLED**

**With regrets, the annual Independence Day Ride and Brunch, aka Tour de Lorain County is cancelled for 2020. I'm sure this does not come as a surprise.**

**There are just too many uncertainties at this time to allow for us to have a safe event.**

**This is yet another decision that just breaks my heart. It is a popular event and always well attended. We all look forward to the nice weather and enjoying the club events with our fellow members. We will enjoy next year's event all the more.**

Sue

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## **Coronavirus and Bicycle Sales**

**Here are some segments from various sources about how the virus is impacting bike sales globally. Some good news!**

**Shimano Inc., a 99-year-old maker of brakes, gears and components, is poised to take advantage of the surge in demand for bicycles across the globe as people embrace new modes of transportation due to the coronavirus pandemic.**

**Shares of the Osaka-based manufacturer have surged since mid-March, touching a record and expanding Shimano's market value by \$5.6 billion (¥604 billion). Investors are betting that more and more people will turn to bicycles as a way to avoid congested public transportation as France, the U.K. and other countries start to ease lockdown measures. London is enacting plans to expand bike lanes and sidewalks to make it easier for citizens to get around, while Berlin erected billboards urging the public to switch to bikes for short commutes.**

**America is entering its third great bicycle revival in 150 years thanks to coronavirus.**

***Cleaner air, quieter streets, more people riding—there's an opportunity here for cities and cycling advocates willing to grasp it.***

**Some bike shops have reported booming business, far above even the normally busy days of the spring selling season. While other outdoor businesses—gear shops, climbing gyms, and ski areas, for example—have closed or are furloughing or laying off workers, bike shops are working hard, often at reduced capacity, to ensure safe customer interactions. There are various reasons for this phenomenon. Amid nationwide stay-at-home-orders, mass-transit ridership is in free fall, leaving essential workers in need of a socially distant way to get around. And many people, especially families with young children at home, are looking for lockdown-compliant ways to get outside and keep everyone as healthy and happy as possible.**

**Such is the demand for bicycles that bike shops can't build them quick enough. "I've been in this industry 15 years and nothing even close," says co-owner of a Denver bike shop. Since the coronavirus pandemic took hold in**

**owner of a Denver bike shop. Since the coronavirus pandemic took hold in March, a cycling boom has been under way across the US. The National Association of City Transport Officials (NACTO) says they are seeing an “explosion in cycling” in many American cities.**

**Some bicycle shops in Brooklyn are selling twice as many bikes as usual and drawing block-long lines of customers. A chain of shops in Phoenix is selling three times the number of bikes it typically does. A retailer in Washington, D.C., sold all its entry-level bikes by the end of April and has fielded more pre-orders than ever in its 50-year history.**

**By the end of April, many stores and distributors had sold out of low-end consumer bikes. Now, the United States is facing a severe bicycle shortage as global supply chains, disrupted by the coronavirus outbreak, scramble to meet the surge in demand.**

***Thinking of buying a bike? Get ready for a very long wait!***

**What do bikes and toilet paper have in common? Both have been flying out of stores due to the coronavirus pandemic.**

**Bicycle sales nationwide surged by 50 percent in March, according to the NPD Group, a market research company. It reported a 121 percent increase in adult leisure-bike sales and a 59 percent uptick in children’s bike sales compared with the same time last year.**



***The virus has done what no woman has been able to do: cancel all sports, shut down bars and keep men at home!***

