

OCTOBER 2011

Waterloo County Wanderers

OUR SEASON IN RETROSPECT

As the days grow shorter and nature gradually assumes her colourful fall mantel, we are reminded that the cycling season is almost at an end. There are mixed emotions once again, as we look back to the camaraderie of this past season and realize that the arrival of winter is drawing closer and will end the 2011 season.

It has been another great year of exploring different parts of Waterloo Region, not to mention our forays into Wellington, Perth and Oxford Counties.

Our members have pitched in to help the Club through a variety of ways, including the start of season pot luck and most important, map distribution.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

We could not operate this Club and give you 52 cycling evenings, with over 150 routes, without a huge helping hand from all our volunteers.

One of the biggest challenges is to get maps to our members for the weekly rides. Without their help, a lot of our activities just wouldn't happen.

Our website is a huge asset and a great tool for both members and non-members alike. Without the efforts and connections that Peter Walesch provides, we just wouldn't have this wonderful resource at our fingertips.

END OF SEASON CELEBRATION

In celebration of another great ride season, about 40 Wanderers gathered at the Harvest Moon in St. Jacobs after the last club organized ride on October 6th. The Harvest Moon even arranged for us to have our own private room. This was a great idea and gave the other patrons some peace and quiet to enjoy their meals while we were celebrating.

MEMBER RECOGNITION

During our year end celebration 12 of our members were recognized and received a certificate. The title of their certificate references the main reason they were nominated. If you weren't there and would like background, email Ed Hummel.

Joan Sketchley - *Map Maker*
Ed Hummel - *Inflated Cowboy*
Catherine Kwiecien - *Big Heart*
Christine Brown - *Tough Chick*
Christine Weber - *Motivator*
Sharen Robinson - *Fall Gal*
Merv Elgie - *Flat Tire*
George Walker - *Road Mechanic*
Dave Pettus - *Pancake scraper*
Peter Walesch - *Helpful directions*
Ron & Grace Rockel - *Newbie Welcome*

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Have you wondered how your membership fee is used?

We ended the season with 77 members, one of which was a gift membership from the club as a pot luck door prize.

Based on 76 paid memberships, fees paid to the OCA are \$27.63 / member. The remainder for club operations is \$12.37

We had a total of 57 organized rides, 52 during the week and 5 on weekends.

Cost per ride (based on \$40 membership) is \$0.70.
Cost per ride (after OCA & Ins.) is \$0.22.

Out of the club portion of the fees we have done the following:

- rented pot luck facility
- bought supplies for the pot luck
- purchase prizes for special events
- purchase printer, paper, ink & misc. office supplies
- create ride maps
- reimburse out of pocket club expenses

X-COUNTRY SKIING

Attention all X-Country Wanderers! For the past few winters, Wanderers and friends have gathered on Saturday mornings (weather permitting) to enjoy the crisp winter air and snowy trails of Schneiders Bush in Waterloo. Beginning in January, by popular request, we will again be sending out an email to all on Wednesday evenings with a "best guess" on weather and snow conditions for the following Saturday. Hope to see you there.

THE WCW FACEBOOK GROUP

The fb group, which now has 35 members, has been used since last winter for individuals to organize their own cross country ski outings, plan extra cycling rides, share photos as well as ideas, messages and greetings. To join the group, logon to www.Facebook.com and enter "Waterloo County Wanderers" in the search field at the top. When you see the group listed, click on it to go to the WCW group page. You will then see a description of the group and all of the current members. Click "Join this Group" under the group picture on the right side of the screen. Because this group is setup as **closed**, you will have to wait for an administrator to confirm your request. Another way to join the group is to get one of your Facebook friends who is already a member of the group to add you. You can send a *Facebook message* to anyone else that has a Facebook account. You do not have to be a Facebook friend of that person and do not need to know his/her email address.

CLUB JERSEYS

Our inventory is shrinking.
We have the following jerseys still in stock.

Yellow: 5 Medium and 2 Large

Blue: 5 Medium, 7 Large, 4 XL and 3 XXL

Cost remains at \$75 taxes included. Should you wish to purchase one, please email Joan or Hans.

STORE DISCOUNTS

Don't forget that your WCW Membership Card is good for obtaining attractive discounts for parts, service, accessories and clothing at McPhails in Waterloo and Ziggy's and Braun's in Kitchener right through the winter.

YOUR ORGANIZERS

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Carl Hiebert photo from the book "*This Land I Love - Waterloo County*"