

WISCONSIN RIDE FOR KIDS 2011

Possibly for the first time, participation by the Illini Free Spirit Riders was greater for the Wisconsin Ride for Kids® than for the Chicagoland Ride for Kids® this year. We assembled at the Warrenville Pancake House for breakfast on Saturday morning before heading out on I-88. Within minutes, we had pulled off to don our rain gear as the sprinkles began, but long before we reached the Wisconsin border, the sun was back out and the rest of the day remained rain-free.

Our trip this year included a ride across the Wisconsin River aboard the Merrimac Ferry and a stop at the Wollersheim Winery in Prairie du Sac. After reaching Middleton and getting checked into our hotel rooms, we regrouped at the host hotel for the raffle drawings -- where some of our party made out pretty good -- and then walked over to Quaker Steak & Lube for supper.

Torrential rains passed through during the night, but the Ride for Kids event was rain-free and the ride itself, through the hills and valleys of central Wisconsin, was gorgeous, as usual. Some of our members left immediately after the ride, while others stayed for the Celebration of Life before heading home. By all accounts, it had been a great weekend trip.