

Fellow STLRC Members,

Winter is fast approaching, a time when many of us will be hanging up our bicycles until spring. For others, this seasonal change means it's time to dig out the hiking boots and poles and hit the trails - it's hiking season!

I am happy to report that this year STLRC will be offering a comprehensive hiking program with the same insurance available to our cycling members.

Like STLRC's cycling program, member-led hikes will be published on the STLRC website. Hiking venues from past years are available in the Hikes section of the STLRC Cue Sheet Library for hike leaders to choose from. The hikes will be rated easy, moderate and difficult depending on the terrain and mileage. New venues and new leaders are welcome and encouraged.

I will be coordinating the hiking program this season. Recruiting volunteer hike leaders is my first priority. Want to lead a hike? Larry Essmann will relieve the tech challenged among us by posting your hikes on the STLRC website. You can choose one of the many hikes listed in the Cue Sheet Library under Special Events or design your own hike.

Because winter weather is so changeable it is often difficult to plan ahead. We will follow our current schedule of Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday as hiking days but any day of the week is acceptable. Gonna be warm and sunny on Wednesday? Jump in on Tuesday and post your hike with Larry and I will email to my STLRC hiker list.

Here's what I need from you:

1. Your name and email address if you want to participate in the STLRC hiking program.
2. Your name and email address if you want to be a hike leader.
3. If you are not currently a member of STLRC, please join to be included in our insurance coverage. Send a \$10 check to STLRC Membership Chair Patti Brumleve, 15574 Parasol Drive, Chesterfield, MO. 63017. The \$10 annual membership fee includes both the biking and hiking programs. The membership form can be found on the STLRC website. Please mail the completed form with your check to Patti.

That's it. I look forward to your responses and ideas for a successful hiking season.

Claudia Spener,
STLRC Hiking Coordinator
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