

The Roadrunner

A BI-MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CYCLING CLUB

Mountains Challenge is 'Beauty & Beast'

About 450 happy and tired bicyclists participated in the 18th annual Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge on July, 30. Impressed with scenic roads through redwood forests,



they were challenged by the 4.5-mile climb up torturous Alba Road. When an early-morning rockslide on Bear Creek Road threatened to derail the riders' descent from Zayante to Boulder Creek, SCCCC volunteer Dave Dominguez, the CHP and a helpful truck driver cleaned away the debris before any riders passed by. Whew!

Known for its spectacular scenery, friendly volunteers and homemade food, this year's event, the only fundraiser for the Santa Cruz County Cycling Club, delivered big time. Both riders and club members embraced the weather, which featured temperatures that remained cooler than in years past, hovering in the 70's and low 80's for most of the day. Coastal riders rarely saw the sun.

"Thank you so much. The Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge was a Beauty and the Beast ride, with nice weather and the best scenery of any century I've done, as well as its beastly climbs!" reported Hani Juha of Redwood City, who brought several of his Menlo Bike Club pals along for the ride. "As for me,

I loved it. It was well supported and we may come back to do the 75-miler next year."

While the roads remained clear and safe, three riders stumbled and fell while crossing the railroad tracks north of Davenport, earning them a free entry into next year's event. This year's challenge featured four routes of 135, 101, 75 and 45 miles, with elevation gains ranging from 3,000 to 13,000+ feet. More than 100 volunteers helped with signage, route marking, SAG, water and rest stops, lunch and a post-ride meal of burritos and ice cream.

The event was enjoyable for more than 100 volunteers as well as participants. Michael Burns, one of the organizers, said, "It's easy to recommend both riding and working this event."

—Glide A. Long



Hani Juha, top row, far left, brought several of his Menlo Bike Club friends to the 18th annual Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge on Saturday, July 30th.



About 50 SCCCC members gathered at Gateway Plaza for Workers and Workers+ Ride on Saturday, July 23rd.



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Habitat volunteer rides bike to work site

Since January, Hans Scherman, 66, has ridden his bicycle eight miles round trip to a Santa Cruz Habitat for Humanity worksite from his home in Soquel. Scherman (photo) rides on Brommer Street to the Arana Gulch Multi-Use Trail, crossing the open space's suspension bridge to the worksite. He and other volunteers hope to complete the one and two-bedroom homes on Frederick Street by December. A committed environmentalist, Scherman rode the bus for 13 years from Watsonville to Dominican Hospital, where he worked as a radiologist. (Dominican offered its employees 25-cent coupons for the round trip bus commute.)



THURSDAY, OCT. 27TH
SCCCC MEETING
7 P.M. SIMPKINS SWIM CENTER
979 17TH AVENUE

Club Shorts: *Bike to Work, Open Streets* dates

Two community bicycle events are coming soon. The annual **Fall Bike to Work Day** sponsored by Ecology Action takes place from 6:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 6 throughout Santa Cruz County. Check to see if your favorite breakfast site is on the list at ecoactbike.org. Better yet, contact Emily Gomez (egomez@ecoact.org) to help with the day's activities.

Three days later, the annual **Open Streets West Cliff Drive** takes place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 9. This family-oriented activity allows pedestrians, bicyclists and other non-motorized activists to enjoy a car-free environment along the ocean. **Bike Santa Cruz County** is sponsoring the event for the first time. More information at scopenstreets.org.

SCCCC member **Kathy Ferraro** wants everyone to know that bicycling, mountain climbing, paddling, BASE jumping and skiing are among the sports highlighted in the Banff Mountain Film Festival's **Radical Reels Tour** at 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25 at the Rio Theater. Tickets are \$16 and available at Tomboy and online at <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2563379>.

To see a film trailer, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NymFfEt4ls&feature=youtu.be>

Tour de France bicycle stage race winner **Jens ("Shut Up Legs!") Voigt** will be guest speaker at the ninth annual fundraising dinner for the

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22 at the San Jose Convention Center, 150 W. San Carlos St. The event costs \$150, more if you want to attend a 6 p.m. VIP reception. It is a fundraiser for bicycle advocacy. More information at eventbrite.com. (Voigt lives and trains in Santa Cruz.)

SCCCC member **Bob Early and his wife Traudel** took three granddaughters along this summer to visit Kenya and Tanzania. They were guided by Overseas Travel Adventure. Trip highlights included visits to game preserves and an elementary school.

A state law allowing electric bikes to travel in bike lanes if they don't exceed 28 mph is now in effect. Bikes traveling less than 28 mph need no license, no registration and no insurance. Rider must be 16 years old or older and wear a helmet. Travel on off-road bike paths is not allowed.

Hats off to social chairperson **Mike Heckel**, ably assisted by **Isabelle Magnin** for the Pizza and Pie ride/party under the trees at Delaveaga Park on Aug. 20. More than 60 SCCC members enjoyed a variety of bike rides as well as post-ride ambience.

SCCCC's favorite thespian, **Marcus Cato**, is appearing in "A Streetcar Named Desire" from Sept. 7 to Oct. 2 at the Colligan Theater in The Tannery Arts Center. This Pulitzer Prize-winning drama is presented by Jewel Theater. Tickets are \$37-43 and available at www.JewelTheatre.net.



THE ROADRUNNER is the official newsletter of **THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CYCLING CLUB**. It is published bimonthly, sent out via email to members and is available at local bicycle shops, the Santa Cruz Visitors Bureau and local libraries and chambers of commerce. Submissions (articles, photos, and letters) are gladly accepted. Email is easiest, but we'll entertain all options. Contact us at: **SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CYCLING CLUB P.O. BOX 8342 SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-8342** or www.santacruzcycling.org

THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CYCLING CLUB is a nonprofit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Service code. The club's mission is to bring cycling to all levels of riders and encourage healthy lifestyles through education, friendship, teamwork and fun. The club is known for its annual **Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge** held the last Saturday in July. Proceeds from this event go to the club's educational activities.

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Left photo, Bob and Traudel on African safari. Above, Kathy Ferraro, far right, celebrated her 60th birthday with a 60K ride with friends. L to r: Jan West, Peggy Seltz, Becky Slama and Kathy. New Bicycle Friendly Community sign is by Wilder Ranch Bike Path Entrance at Shaffer Road.

Mountains Challenge hits its target

It's the season for fundraisers, and the SCCCC's annual (and only) fundraising event, **The Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge**, went off smoothly on July 30th. A hearty thank you to more than 100 volunteers who came forward to put on the event, which started and ended from the courtyard of Baskin School of Engineering at UCSC. This was the second year that we started and ended there, and we had around 450 riders. We also raised the entrance fee slightly, while keeping our costs low, so we are expecting a decent return this year for everyone's hard work.

Many riders expressed their appreciation for the homemade breads at the rest stops, the enthusiasm of the volunteers and the insanely difficult courses. I personally have enjoyed meeting and working with Skippy "Jammer" Givens, our UCSC sponsor, and I'm grateful that fellow club

members have also enjoyed working with the university's Slug Cyclists. Skippy just retired from UCSC (our event was his last official duty after more than 20 years of running the club sports program), but he says we can expect to see him on more club rides. I, for one, would like to see our relationship with the UCSC bike community continue to grow.

An entirely different kind of 'fundraiser' is Proposition D, the half cent sales tax measure for transportation projects on the November ballot. After we all stop groaning about the presidential mess, we will be called upon to vote yay or nay to raise funds to pay for an array of local transportation-related projects.

CalTrans has drastically reduced the funding that was going to be coming our way for efforts like pothole repair, safety programs for kids to walk or bike

to school, bike and pedestrian bridge crossings, senior and disabled transit service, the coastal rail trail and corridor. (No rail passenger service will be funded



by this measure.) Please take time to read over the extensive research and community outreach that the Regional Transportation Commission has done between now and November to better acquaint yourself with what this tax measure would do for Santa Cruz. An existing quarter-cent tax measure will expire this year, so Proposition D would technically be one quarter of one per cent sales tax increase. Read about it at: <http://scrtc.org/funding-planning/2016transportationballotmeasure/>
—Maura Noel, SCCCC President

Bike Santa Cruz County's Conlen is new city transportation coordinator

Amelia Conlen (photo) is changing jobs while remaining involved in bicycle planning for the city of Santa Cruz. The former executive director of Bike Santa Cruz County is now working at city hall as Transportation Coordinator. In her new position, Conlen reports she will tackle a wide variety of bike, pedestrian and automobile projects, while also reviewing grant applications and contracts and planning public meetings.



In her four years as head of the county's bike advocacy group, Conlen spearheaded a rebranding of the organization, including its name change from People Power. Under her leadership, BSCC can list the following accomplishments for the bike

community:

- Approval of funding for the first green lane treatments in Santa Cruz, Capitola, Soquel Village and highway interchanges at Soquel Drive and Freedom Boulevard. Installation of striped green lanes on Laurel Street and the west end of Broadway. Bike lane on the west side of Western Avenue.
- Approval of Pacific Avenue contra-flow (two-way) lane in Santa Cruz.
- Sponsor of Santa Cruz Open Streets, Run by the Sea, Light Up the Night and Kids' Bike Party.
- Watsonville Earn-A-Bike Program, now in its third year.
- Funding of Westside Rail Trail segment (in partnership with FORT).
- Gold Bicycle Friendly Community status for Santa Cruz from the League

of American Bicyclists (LAB).

Conlen is a graduate of the University of Washington, where she received a B.A. degree in Community, Environment, Planning. She has studied urban planning in Groningen, The Netherlands, and worked in transportation planning at Ecology Action.

Conlen's departure will be bittersweet, as she says she has enjoyed meeting and working with bicycle advocates over the past four years.

"This position has had its challenges," she says, "and there have been many times that a small show of support from a member, business owner or volunteer has given me the energy to keep going. Bike advocacy is truly a community effort—thanks to all for everything you do for better bicycling."

A good-bye celebration will take place for Conlen from 5:30–8:30 p.m. Sept. 1st at Lupulo Craft Beer House, 233 Cathcart St. —Rhoda Bike

Mountains Challenge success due to its diligent volunteers



Left to right: Marianne Benforado, Barbara and John Moore, Steve Svete, David Lawrence, Tim Thomas, Leonard Foreman, Bob Early, Debbie Texeira, Larry Tierney, Eric Scholar and Jo Gondo.



Left to right: Toby and Jane Ferbuson, Jan West, Ray Connelly, David and Jeanni Kadotani, Mike Harrison, Lilly Ann Popken and Marilyn Marzell.



Left to right: Catherine vanRhee, Nelson Crandall, Lisa Beaudreau, Conrad Sudduth, Gerry Rooney, John Anderson, Cari Gomar, Karen Nevis, Chris Loose, Dave Dominguez and Sue P. Thorley.



Left to right: Jack and Judy Johnson, Tony and Jackie Rall, Kiki Kurvin, Arlene Pietrzak, John Biddick, Maryann Boeger, Steve Williams, Howard Unkeles, Margo Hober, Janet Fogel, Eileen Cavalier and Jack Johnson.



Left to right: Ralph Edwards, Peter Jones and David Hemrick. Right photo, Scotts Valley Cycle Sport was scene of final SCMC training ride lead by Catherine vanRhee, far right.

Friendly support at start and rest stops for Challenge



Left to right: Lunch crew (front row) Tina Ensign, Melissa Cline (Trips for Kids), Kelly Johnson, (back row) Shalom Compost, Michelle Lee, John Hall, Chris Fowler, Zelma Fennell, and Earl Rosebraugh; Early registration: (front row) Jeff Brody, Linda O'Heron and Paul McDonald, (back row) Steve Walker and Cathy Bonino; Zayante Rest Stop, Maryanne Boeger, Michael Farmer, Linda Wiles, Sandra Lee, Catherine vanRhee and, (sitting), Heidi Fraser.

Mother, daughter team ride Portland Bridge Pedal

According to SCCCC member Miriam Guiney, the city of Portland, OR and the sport of bicycling go together like peanut butter and jelly. On Aug. 14, Miriam and her 31-year-old daughter, Elana Pirtie-Guiney, (photo) were among more than 20,000 bicyclists who participated in Portland's 21st annual Bridge Pedal, a bicycle tour of the city's network of 10 bridges across the Wilamette River. (All



bridges are closed to cars on the morning of the event.)

Miriam, left in photo, reports she and her daughter rode the "six-bridge route" or about 12 miles. The event ends with free admission to a waterfront festival. Bridge Pedal entry fees range from \$15 for kids on the short ride to \$60 for the most challenging route. The event benefits community health services for Greater Portland. This is the third year riding Bridge Pedal for the mother/daughter combo.



Helping out at the Bike Church, 703 Pacific Ave., are Bill Cook, left, and Ron Woods. To volunteer go to bikechurch.santacruzhub.org. The Bike Church is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at various hours.

Thanks July/Aug ride leaders

Ric Eiserling (2), Ralph Edwards Bruce Dau (3), Larry Tierney (2), Isabelle Magnin, Karen Nevis, Dave Dominguez, Doug Gotelli, Barbara Moore, Chris Boman (2), Petronella van Dam, JT Hart, Bill McBride, Karla Stevens, Toby Ferguson, Maura Noel, David/Jeanni Kadotani, Denise Katz, Howard Burman, Barbara Moore, Massimo Caporale and Myrna Sherman.

Local bike shops help out Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge riders



Clockwise, Zach Black of Bike Station Aptos, Nate Trumble of The Bike Trip, Roland Carlson (left) and Ryan Ballou of Performance Bikes in Campbell, Patrick Alvirrez of Cycle Works, and Wade Hall (owner), Chris Griffith, Art Ran and Harry Gurnee of Spokesman Bicycles. Mechanical help was available and busy at UCSC registration, Boulder Creek, Ben Lomond Training Center, Zayante Fire Station and Greyhound Rock.



Weekly Rides *Rider Levels*

C Rides are between 25-35 miles, at 10-14 mph, with up to 2,000 feet of elevation. B Rides are for intermediate riders and are between 25-50 miles, at 12-16 mph pace, with up to 3,000 feet of elevation; A Rides are for experienced riders looking for a challenge. These rides are from 40 - 80 miles, at a 15-20 mph pace, with over 3,000 feet of elevation.

Bicycle club members lead social group rides for the enjoyment and pleasure of the bicycling community. While riders regroup along the way, we recommend riding with a buddy. If you don't come with someone, feel free to ask one of the other riders if you can ride along with them. Come prepared with extra tubes and know how to change a flat tire. Bring water, a snack and ID. Before the ride starts, every participant must sign a League of American Bicyclist (LAB) approved waiver stating that the Santa Cruz County Cycling Club is not responsible for any incident occurring during the ride. Saturday bicycle rides (or carpools) may start from the Capitola Community Center (Jade St/45th Ave) in Capitola. Route sheets will be emailed to the club mailing list about two days before each ride. Rain cancels rides.

Tuesday ride: Meet at 9:45 a.m. for a 10 a.m. start for this social/leisurely paced road ride. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of month, start at Gateway Plaza (the shopping center on River St. near Hwy 1). No public water or restrooms available. On the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, meet at parking lot by the entrance to Nisene Marks Park, Aptos. The fifth Tuesday of the month is a leader's choice for start location. Distance will vary from 20-40 miles. Destinations include a lunch stop. Bring water and snacks. Questions? Contact: Ralph Edwards at rhedwardsiii@gmail.com. "Lite" rides are offered in conjunction with the regular Tuesday rides for a less strenuous, generally shorter ride.

Thursday ride: Meet at 10 a.m. in front of the Corralitos Market for moderately paced road ride of 25-45 miles. No Leader—Decide and Ride. Bring water, snacks. OR, meet at 9 a.m. at Gateway Plaza for alternate Decide and Ride. New "D" rides are starting at 9:30 a.m. on Thursdays from various locations. Contact Chris Zemny at rabjudge@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, September 3 A/B Ride

Pescadero to Half Moon Bay for Lunch

Meet in Pescadero Parking Lot by light at 9 a.m. Lunch at San Benito Hotel. A=56mi/5288; B=43mi/3488'

Grace Voss.....831-247-8878

Saturday, September 3 C Ride

Seaside via Fort Ord, Barloy Canyon

Arrive by 9:15 for 9:30 a.m. start at Walmart Parking Lot in Marina. 26.4 miles, 1782'; JT Hart.....831-234-7726

Saturday, September 10 A/B Ride

Eureka Canyon

A riders add Mt Bache/Loma Prieta. Lunch at Summit Store. Arrive at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start from Nisene Marks Park; A=53 mi/5500'; B=47 miles

Ron Olson.....408-218-3189

Saturday, September 10 C Ride

Sand City to Pebble Beach via 17-Mile Drive

Start at Starbucks in Sand City. Arrive by 9:45 for 10 a.m. start. 33.1 mi/1,242'

Petronella van Dam.....831-454-6010

Saturday, September 17 A/B Ride

Pescadero/Tunitas Creek/Woodside, Old La Honda

Arrive in Pescadero at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start. A=51 mi/5700', B=46 mi/4800' (skips Woodside)

Tony Rall.....831-332-9216

Saturday, September 17 C Ride

Gayle's, Mountain View/Buttery Loop

Arrive at Gateway Plaza by 8:45 for 9 a.m. start. 23.6 mi/1,026'

Skippy Givens.....831-459-4220

Saturday, September 24 A/B Ride

Mountain Charlie, Soda Springs

Meet at CCC at 8:45 a.m. for 9 a.m. start. A=56 mi/6400', B=36 mi/2950'

Catherine vanRhee.....408-219-8626

Saturday, September 24 C Ride

Aromas/Watsonville

Arrive at Aromas School by 9:45 for 10 a.m. start. 34.3 miles/975'

Irish and Gayle Meusel.....831 588-815

Saturday, October 1 A/B Ride

Big Basin via Zayante, Skyline, Highway 9.

Arrive at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start from Felton Fair Shopping Center. A=54 mi/5000'; B=29 mi/2580' Return via Bear Creek Road.

Peter Jones.....831-234-5555

Saturday, October 1 C Ride

Seascape/Gizdich/Levee

Arrive by 9:15 for 9:30 a.m. start at Seascape Village Shopping Center; Park near tennis courts. 33 mi/1,276'

David and Jeanni Kadotani.....831-588-3561

Saturday, October 8th A/B/C Ride

San Francisco Fleet Week

Meet at CCC (Jade St./45th Ave.) at 7 a.m. to carpool. Start 8:45 a.m. at A T & T Park by Willie Mays Statue or 9 a.m. from Ferry Building; ride to Tiburon/Larkspur; return via ferry. B-23 mi/1200'; A- 45 mi/2500'.

Claire Northall.....A-B ride.....925-421-5334

Paula Bradley.....C ride.....831-345-5482



SCMC volunteers, l to r: Betsy Schwartz, Aven Switzer, Beverly Stutes, Bruce Dau, Ginger Anderson, Deb Berardo, Kathy Ferraro, Kiki Kurvin, Petronella van Dam and Bill McBride.

Bicycle Safety with Pete: Riding too fast downhill may be hazardous

Nothing is more terrifying than a descent at speed when you realize you may be going a little beyond your capabilities. Sometimes shadows will play into this situation as you move from the sunny areas at the top of a climb to shade at the bottom. Often my sunglasses can't cope with the change and I'm suddenly in darkness. This can also happen on the underpasses of the San Lorenzo Riverwalk. One day I found myself going downhill at a reasonable speed when, all of a sudden, I saw one of our frequent daytrippers partially blocking the underpass with contents from a large backpack spilled out in my line of travel. Oops! What to do? First and foremost, keep your bike



under control. As in downhill skiing, reckless speed is never acceptable. As you begin a descent, brake moderately at times well before approaching a turn. Keep speed in check. Consider the condition of the road and adjust accordingly. Braking should always be on the straight, never in the apex of the turn. I prefer to ride in the center of the lane when possible, as most potholes and hazards will be to the outer edge. Heavy semi trucks may cause ruts in the road.

Avoid traveling over the center paint striping, as well as the right-hand edge striping while in a turn. (You want to be riding right of the center marking to avoid a head-on collision.) Always expect that the oncoming driver may wander left of center, putting you in danger.

Painted stripes are slippery, whether wet or dry. Braking on a descent at speed, whether in a turn or not, can send you into a slide. So keep your speed down and your brakes off when traveling over painted lines or rumblestrips on the center divider. —Pete Pearson

Saturday, October 8 C Ride

Sand City to Carmel via 17-Mile Drive

Arrive at Starbucks in Sand City by 9:15 for a 9:30 a.m. start. 32 mi/1,635'

Joe Kelly.....831-234-1977

Saturday, October 15 A/B Ride

Paicines to Pinnacles

Meet at Paicines General Store (Highway 25 and Panoche Road, 10 miles south of Hollister on Highway 25) at 9:15 for 9:30 a.m. start. A=69.5 mi/3600'; B=45.4 mi/2500' (skips Cienega Road); bring lunch.

Richard Burton.....408-540-4695

Saturday, Oct 15 C Ride

Gilroy to Morgan Hill via Oak Glen, Uvas

Arrive by 9:45 for 10 a.m. start at Gilroy Sports Park, 5925 Monterey Frontage Road. 34.2 mi/1177'

Bill McBride.....831-239-6081

Saturday, October 22 A/B Ride

Big Basin

Meet behind Johnnie's Market in Boulder Creek at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start. Park behind market. Carpool from CCC at 7:45 a.m.; A=43 mi/3200'; B=25 mi/2500'

Ric Eiserling.....831-475-5397

Saturday, October 22 C Ride

Aromas/San Juan Bautista

Arrive by 9:45 for 10 a.m. start at Aromas School. 23.8 mi/1349' Irish and Gayle Meusel.....831-588-8152

Saturday, October 29 A/B Ride

Mt Hamilton

Meet at bottom of Alum Rock Avenue and Mt Hamilton Rd. San Jose at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start. A=40 mi/4600'; B's may turn around before summit.

Isabelle Magnin.....831-325-2712

Saturday, October 29 C Ride

Scotts Valley via Laurel Glen, Granite Creek, Glen Canyon

Arrive by 9:45 for 10 a.m. start at CCC. 25.7 mi/1596'

Paula Bradley.....831 345-5482

Saturday November 5 A/B Ride

TBA - Check SCCCC website

Lisa Beaudreau.....206-321-4641

Saturday, November 5 C Ride

Sand City to Pebble Beach via 17-Mile Drive

Arrive at 9:45 for 10 a.m. start at Starbucks in Sand City.

Jack Johnson.....831-359-2501

RTC places multi-use transportation project on Nov ballot

The Regional Transportation Commission's board of directors approved in mid-June the final 2016 Santa Cruz County Transportation Improvement Plan (TRIP). Now known as Proposition D, it will be on the November ballot, requiring a 67% voter approval rating to pass. It will result in a half cent sales tax increase. (A quarter cent sales tax for education in California, known as Prop 30, expires in December.)

The final package of projects reflects modifications by the RTC board to meet the diverse needs of county residents. . The board increased funding to maintain transportation service for seniors and people with disabilities provided by Santa Cruz METRO and Community Bridges Lift Line by 4%. The coastal rail trail received a 2% increase in funding (\$85M). Rail corridor was reduced by 6% for maintenance and an open, transparent analysis of possible future transit, as well as other



corridor uses. (The rail corridor and the rail trail are separate projects.) No passenger rail service funding is included in Proposition D.

A broad-based campaign representing bicycling, business, environmental, community and social service groups has formed to recommend a Yes vote on Proposition D.

By passing Prop D, Santa Cruz may become a "self help" county, making it eligible for federal and state grants. The gasoline tax, which funds transportation projects, has decreased. Along with less funding from gas tax, cars today are more fuel efficient, resulting in less rev-

enue for transportation projects.

In other news, the RTC has approved construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities at Twin Lakes State Beach. This project will allow for the parking of 22 cars, while providing safer travel for pedestrians, bicyclists and people with disabilities.

The Polar Express Train will replace the holiday Train to Christmas Town of the past two years. It will run round trip from the Santa Cruz Boardwalk to Capitola and is expected to add \$60,000 to local revenues. Operating from Nov. 17 to Dec. 23, Iowa Pacific RR will run two to four trains per day, with an average ticket cost of \$57.

RTC staff has recommended repaving and/or sharrows for Green Hills and Navarra Roads in Scotts Valley, a popular bike route connecting Glen Canyon Road to Granite Creek Road.

For the North Coast section of the rail trail, the RTC and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County have combined to start the process of extending the rail trail two miles from Panther Beach to Davenport. This plan includes adding parking lots and creating more access from Highway 1. Funding will go towards design and environmental clearance.

The Land Trust is also funding an engineering study to widen the Trestle Bridge over the San Lorenzo River. According to Bike Santa Cruz County, the study indicates the bridge is strong enough to support a 10-foot wide bicycle path. Since 2015, the Land Trust has raised more than 3M for the coastal rail trail.—Grace Voss



Top Row: Donna Lee, Victoria Kerr, Myrna Sherman; front row: Howard Burman, Rose Bechtel, Robin Ward, Ricardo Am Rhein, Bowman Wang, Christine Long, Debbie Connell, Kathy Smyth, Randi Diccio, Denise Katz, Massimo Caporale and Mary Hermansky.

Graduation party Aug. 6 for Cycling for Starters

SCCCC member and licensed cycling instructor (LCI) Myrna Sherman reports that her four-week Cycling for Starters class, which ended Aug. 6, was one of the most successful. Why? "Most of the students were already strong bicyclists, but they knew they needed to improve their skills and, most importantly, they wanted to know how to safely ride in traffic," says Sherman. "One of my students completed the

45-mile Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge, while another has already gone on one of the bike club's "D" rides."

Sherman adds that she could not have done this without the aid of three former students—Denise Kaatz, Massimo Caporale, Howard Burman and Barbara Moore. I am proud of my students and their dedication to work with me to train bicyclists to ride safely on our ever-more dangerous roads."

\$100 Reward

for return of stolen porta potty 7/29/16 on North Rodeo Gulch Road; contact gracevoss@sbcglobal.net



Beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota a bicycling challenge

The next 20 miles are all downhill! “Yeah, right!” I told myself with misgiving on the last day of Bicycle Adventure Club’s two-week tour of South Dakota’s Black Hills. While the gradient map showed a gradual descent along all 26.8 miles from Hill City to our final destination of Rapid City, we knew intuitively that uphill climbs along the way were certain to put our heart rates into high gear. Southwestern South Dakota’s lush green meadows and ponderosa pine forests were breathtakingly beautiful, but you had to push your bike hard to experience them.

Like all BAC outings, “The Heart of the Black Hills” was well-organized and filled with beauty and history. Mt. Rushmore, with its granite faces of Washington, Jefferson, Teddy Roosevelt and Lincoln, was first on our itinerary, the creation of Gutzon Borglum, with financial help from US Senator Peter Norbeck. We visited the artist’s studio nearby, showing lifelike replicas which served as models for the faces, which took five-years (1934-1939) to blast and sculpt into the mountain’s granite. A modern Visitor’s Center boasts an entryway of columns and flags representing all 50 states before giving way to a large patio overlooking the monument.

The next day’s ride took us through Custer State Park, with stoppages due to buffalo in the road, as well as views of pronghorn antelope, prairie dogs and bluebirds resting near birdhouses along the meadows. The weather was sunny with refreshing breezes, helping us navigate a three-mile climb up Iron Mountain Road. We passed through two tunnels with views of Rushmore’s faces, before crossing three “pigtail bridges” built for traffic navigating the intense elevation gain. An afternoon thundershower hastened our journey at day’s end. Custer State Park has a brand new Visitor’s Center with an IMAX movie, narrated by Kevin Costner,



Mount Rushmore presidents, l to r: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Teddy Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln

showing the area’s annual buffalo roundup held in September.

Other highlights included Jewel Cave and a sojourn into Northeastern Wyoming to visit Devil’s Tower, scene of the 1977 movie ‘Close Encounters of the Third Kind.’ A rock climber’s destination, the mountain rises 867 feet above the Belle Fourche River. It represents Rocky Mountain uplift, with erosion over millions of years creating grooves on all four sides of the tower. Legend says a bear’s claws caused the rippled effect as he tried unsuccessfully to kill seven Indian girls seeking refuge. Spirits turned the girls into the Seven Pleiades constellation.

Back in South Dakota, we rode a full day on the George S. Mickelson rail trail, a magnificent 100-mile stretch of crushed limestone from Deadwood to Edgemont. Our journey took us half the distance, a divine 48 miles, with a morning ride through forests of birch, pine, aspen and fir, with prolific ferns growing by the trail. After descending to Dumont, we followed the meandering Castle Creek across lush grasslands, with views of rocky escarpments in the distance. Tall grasses on both sides of the trail were a border

in motion from afternoon breezes as we arrived at Rocheford, a thriving gold mining community in the 1890’s. The limestone was not difficult for road bikes to navigate, even on the uphill grade before a long descent into Hill City. The final five miles into town featured aspen trees on both sides of the trail forming a leafy canopy of shade.

South Dakota’s Black Hills received their name from the needles of the ponderosa pine trees in the area. These needles are flat and absorb darkness at day’s end, creating shadows on the hills. They provide a beautiful backdrop to the many historic sights and lush landscapes greeting us on our two-week outing. —Grace Voss

Online bike registration

The Santa Cruz Police Dept. is offering free online bike registration. Fill out the form at <http://tinyurl.com/hmmkbg/7>. A bike registration sticker will be mailed to you in a few weeks.

If your bike is stolen and police recover it, bike registration makes it easy to prove you are the rightful owner. Otherwise, you may have a hard time proving that a recovered bike is yours!

Local bicycle shops

These shops are supporting our bicycle club with discounts on bicycling accessories. Discounts vary according to the shop. Ask sales clerk for club discount.

Another Bike Shop
2361 Mission Street
427-2232
Open daily–10AM–6PM

The Bicycle Trip
1001 Soquel Avenue
427-2580
Monday–Saturday–10AM–6PM
Sunday–10AM–5PM

Bill's Bike Repair
2826 Soquel Drive
477-0511
Open daily but call first!

Dave's Custom Bikes
910–A Soquel Avenue
423-8923
Tuesday–Sunday–9AM–5PM

Family Cycling Center
912 41st Avenue
475-3883
Monday–Saturday–10AM–6PM
Sunday–10am–5pm

The Spokesman Bicycles
231 Cathcart Street
429-6062
Monday–Thursday–10am–6pm
Friday–10AM–7PM
Saturday–10AM–6PM
Sunday–Noon–5PM

The Bike Coop
1156 High Street
457-8281
Monday–Friday–10AM–6PM

Bike Station Aptos
36 Rancho del Mar
688-4169
Monday–Friday–11AM–6PM
Saturday–10AM–5PM
Sunday–Appointment only

Scotts Valley Cycloport
245 Mount Hermon Road
Scotts Valley
440-9070
Tuesday–Thursday–10AM,–6PM; Friday 10AM–7PM
Saturday–10AM–6PM; Sunday–Noon–5PM

Watsonville Cyclery
25 East 5th Street
724-1646
Monday–Saturday–11AM–6PM;
Sunday–Noon– 5PM

The Bike Church
703 Pacific Avenue 425-2453

Epicenter Cycling
Aptos Station, 8035 Soquel Dr. Suite 23
662-8100
Monday–Friday–11AM–7PM; Weekend–8AM–4PM

AND...

1730 Mission Street, Santa Cruz
423-9000

Cycle Works
1420 Mission St.
316-7671
Monday–Friday 10AM–6PM
Saturday–Sunday 9AM–6PM

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831-234-4663 www.maverickmailing.com



JOIN AND RENEW ONLINE at www.santa cruz cycling.org/club

Santa Cruz County Cycling Club Membership Application/Renewal Form

The Santa Cruz County Cycling Club is a group of bicycling enthusiasts with a wide variety of interests and abilities. The mission of the SCCCC is to promote bicycling for all ages through education and organized bicycling events. Included in your membership is a subscription to The Roadrunner, the club's award-winning, bimonthly newsletter, which publishes a schedule of rides and bicycling announcements. In addition, local bicycle shops offer a 10% discount for club members. The club's website, www.santacruzcycling.org provides a home base for your club activities. Annual membership dues must be paid to remain a member in good standing. **Dues become due on Jan. 1st of each year based upon the term of your membership.**

Member First Name	*Member Family Name	*Member Contact Email
*Member Contact Telephone	Member Ride Cell Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Member <input type="checkbox"/> Include on Printed Roster <input type="checkbox"/> Add to SCCCC Email list
2nd Member First Name	2nd Member Family Name and Email	One Year Memberships <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 for RR Mail* <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$35 <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 for RR Mail* <input type="checkbox"/> Junior \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 for RR Mail*
2nd Member Contact Telephone	2nd Member Cell Phone	Three-Year Memberships <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$60 <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 for RR Mail* <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$90 <input type="checkbox"/> \$105 for RR Mail*

*Street Address *City *State *Zip *Roadrunner Newsletter delivered by US Mail

League of American Bicyclists (LAB)
 Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement ("Agreement")
 Each applicant for membership shall read and sign the following Release Agreement

In Consideration of being permitted to participate in any way in Santa Cruz County Cycling Club ("Club") sponsored Bicycling Activities ("Activity") I for myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. Acknowledge, agree and represent that I understand the nature of Bicycling Activities and that I am qualified to participate in such Activity. I further acknowledge that the Activity will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the Activity and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I further agree and warrant that if at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the Activity.

2. Fully Understand that: (a) Bicycling Activities Involve Risks and Dangers of Serious Bodily Injury, including permanent disability, paralysis and death ("Risks"); (b) these Risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions, or inactions, the actions of others participating in the activity, the condition in which the activity takes place, or the negligence of the "Releases" named below; (c) there may be other risks and social and economic losses either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I fully accept and assume all such risks and all responsibility for losses, costs and damages I incur as a result of my participation in the Activity.

3. Hereby release, discharge, covenant not to sue, and agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless the Club, the LAB, their respective administrators, directors, agents, and employees, other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of the premises on which the Activity takes place (each considered one of the "Releases" herein) from all liability, claims, demands, losses or damages on my account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the "Releases" or otherwise, including negligent rescue operations.

I have read this agreement, fully understand its terms, understand that I have given up substantial rights by signing it and have signed it freely and without any inducement or assurance of any nature and intend it to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability to the greatest extent allowed by law and agree that if any portion of this agreement is held to be invalid the balance, notwithstanding, shall continue in full force and effect.

 Signature of Applicant Date Signature(s) of additional family members 18 years or older Date

Please complete the following for any minor (18-year-old) family members:

Minor Release

And I, the Minor's parent and/or legal guardian, understand the nature of bicycling activities and the Minor's experience and capabilities and believe the minor to be qualified, in good faith, and in proper physical condition to participate in such activities. I hereby release, discharge, covenant not to sue, and agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless each of the releasees from all liability, claims, demands, losses, or damages on the minor's account caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the "releases" or otherwise, including negligent rescue operations and further agree that if, despite this release, I, the minor, or anyone on the minor's behalf makes a claim against any of the releasees named above, I will indemnify, save, and hold harmless each of the releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss liability, damage, or any cost that may incur as the result of any such claim

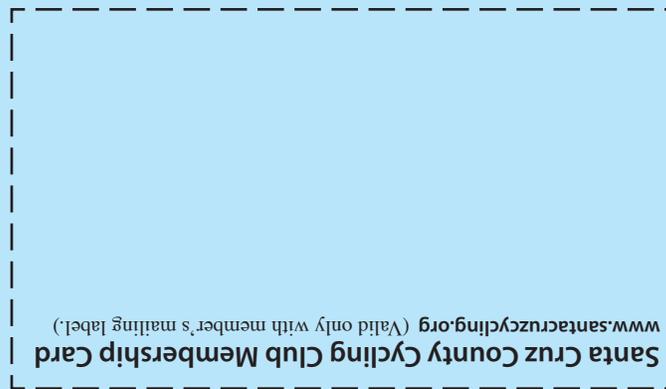
 Printed Name of Parent or Guardian Signature of Parent or Guardian Signature of Minor

Please sign waiver — Incomplete Forms Will Be Returned

Enclosed is \$_____ dues for membership in the Santa Cruz County Cycling Club which entitles me to all the rights and privileges of membership. Make check payable to SCCCC and mail to: Santa Cruz County Cycling Club, P.O. Box 8342, Santa Cruz, CA 95061-8342

September–October, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 SCCCC Board 7 p.m	2 Clean your bike!	3 Club Ride
4 Go for a bike ride!	5	6 Club Ride GP	7	8	9 Sign up to lead a ride!	10 Club Ride
11	12	13 Club Ride NMP	14	15	16	17 Club Ride
18	19	20 Club Ride GP	21	22	23 Go for a bike ride!	24 Club Ride
25	26 Ride Safely!	27 Club Ride NMP	28 Clean your bike!	29	30	1 Club Ride
2 Go for a bike ride!	3 Sign up to lead a ride!	4 Club Ride GP	5 Bike to Work Day tomorrow!	6 SCCCC Board 7 p.m	7	8 Club Ride
9 Open Streets 9 a.m.–2 p.m.	10	11 Club Ride NMP	12	13 Sign up to lead a ride!	14	15 Club Ride
16	17 Go for a bike ride!	18 Club Ride GP	19	20 Volunteer to lead a ride	21	22 Club Ride
23 30	24 31	25 Club Ride NMP	26	27 SCCCC meeting 7 p.m. Simpkins	28 GP is Gateway Plaza	29 Club Ride NMP is Nisene Marks Park



 Santa Cruz County Cycling Club Membership Card
 www.santacruzccycling.org (Valid only with member's mailing label.)



SCCCC
 PO Box 8342
 Santa Cruz, CA
 95061-8342