

The Roadrunner

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

Praise for new start of Mountains Challenge

Universal praise for the food and volunteers has come from some of the nearly 400 riders of the July 25th Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge. Longer riders said they enjoyed the new routes, with the 101 and 135 mile rides featuring a morning climb of Zayante, in place of Mountain Charlie, and a hefty climb to lunch via Alba Road instead of Jamison Creek. Not everyone enjoyed repeating Bonny Doon by climbing back up to Smith Grade after descending to Highway 1 to ride the Swanton Loop, and some riders criticized the final climb to Baskin Circle at UCSC in the afternoon heat.

Here are individual comments on the 17th annual SCMC, which featured a first-ever start and end at the UCSC campus and four routes of 45, 75, 101 and 135 miles.

"This was the best fun ride I've done! Every rest stop was well stocked. The helpers were nice and really cared about improving the rider's experience." (32-year-old rider from Sacramento.)

"The ride was full of awesomeness. Loved the food, drinks, smiles and music." (37-year-old Capitola rider)

"Good signage on most of the route. I miss China Grade and Mt. Charlie. I didn't like the wind on Hwy 1 and I didn't do the 135 this year because I didn't think the route looked interesting. Also, I'm not in shape for it." (37-year-old from Sunnyvale)

"The music at Greyhound Rock was great to pump me up, and the music at the end was nice and mellow. Both perfect!" (31-year-old Santa Cruz rider)

Several riders requested impossible geologic and meteorological changes like flattening Alba Road and shutting



Alba Road offers 3.8 mile hill climb

off the wind on Highway 1. Food stops met with universal praise, countered by two suggestions for PB and J in the morning and potato chips in the p.m. Other requests included better driving directions to the event start, a porta potty at the start of Smith Grade and less traffic through the City of Santa Cruz. Some riders bypassed the West Cliff section of their route, choosing a more direct return to UCSC.

Local bicyclist, Amelia Conlen of Bike Santa Cruz County, said the event gave her a chance to conquer a personal challenge. "This was my first year doing the Mountains Challenge, and I'm so glad I did!" she said. "I was able to conquer my fear of Alba and push myself with one of the hardest 75-mile rides I've done. I loved seeing all the friendly faces, along with the tasty snacks and, of course, the beautiful roads. A great day!—Glide A. Long

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
SCCCC MEETING
7 P.M. SIMPKINS SWIM CENTER
979 17TH AVENUE



September—October, 2015

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\$6.3 million for rail trail

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) has accepted a grant award of \$6.3 million from the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Federal Lands Access Program for design, environmental review and construction of a five-mile North Coast segment of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail (MBSST) Network. The RTC will provide \$300,000 in matching funds for the \$10,550,000 project. The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and the California Coastal Conservancy each provided matching funds of \$3 million and \$950,000 respectively. The grant's success was largely due to the matching funds. "Putting up \$3 million was a big leap of faith for the Land Trust," said Land Trust President Terry Corwin, "We're elated to see that it paid off."

The trail will run adjacent to the rail line from Wilder Ranch parking area, five miles north to .4 miles beyond Laguna Road. The northernmost point of the trail will be accessed via a large parking area near Panther and Yellow Bank Beaches.

Club Shorts: *Fond memories of Howard Swann*



The life of **Howard Story Grey Swann**, (left) beloved bike club member, math teacher extraordinaire and member of the inaugural 1961–1963 Peace Corps, was celebrated August 4

by his wife Anita Dyer. Many long-time SCCCC members were among more than 100 people at Canterbury Woods in Pacific Grove who enjoyed live music and saw a video retrospective of Howard's life in Nigeria, Wyoming, Scotts Valley and Santa Cruz. With his gravelly voice, whimsical sense of humor and palpable enthusiasm for life, Howard will be much missed. The bio video is available at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4loin7Dz4UH51_8Zsfbi6g/videos

The SCCCC annual **Fall Ride and Potluck Luncheon** will take place on Saturday, Sept. 12 at the Aptos home of Jim Wheeler and Harriet Wrye. Show up for coffee at 9 a.m. followed by a ride (route TBA), returning around noon to 1 p.m. for potluck. Please bring the following food according to the letters of your last name: A-H hors d'oeuvres; I-M main dish; N-S salad and T-Z dessert. A big thank you to Jim and Harriet for their gracious

hospitality!

Circle Saturday, Sep. 26 on your adventure sports calendar for the **Banff Mountain Film Festival** at the Rio Theater. More than half a dozen films comprise the 2015 edition of the Radical Reels Tour and feature skiing, biking and paddling. Tickets are available online at **Brownpapertickets.com** and at Tomboy and Epicenter Cycling (Santa Cruz and Aptos). Event organizer is **Kathy Ferraro**. Tour trailer is available online at <https://vimeo.com/118969278>

The Community Traffic Safety Coalition (CTSC), a dedicated group of health educators, bike and pedestrian advocates, city staff and law enforcement, has chosen two fall projects: develop a media campaign on distracted driving, and build a closer relationships with law enforcement concerning bike/ped safety.

On a recent Thursday club ride, two SCCCC riders suffered flat tires in the Casserly/Wheelock/Green Valley Road area, possibly due to small thorns known as **goatheads**, an invasive weed that sprinkles thorns onto the roads. They appear as low-growing, bluish-green plants. Try to keep your distance!

LA will start a **Bike Share Program** next spring, with 65 stations throughout the downtown area and nearly 1,100 bicycles available for short-term use 24 hours a day. SCCCC member **Sonia LeClerc** says she is excited about submitting a new **Bicycle Friendly City** application for Santa Cruz to the League of American Bicyclists (LAB). Inspired by the rail trail efforts, LeClerc has worked for several months with **Amelia Conlen Rick Hyman, Ariana Green and Grace Voss** to answer more than 100 questions on the complex application. The committee hopes for a gold rating from LAB. Results will take a few months.

The **Seymour Marine Discovery Center**, 100 Shaffer Road, is the setting for the **SCCCC Holiday Party** starting at 6 p.m. **Saturday, Dec. 19**. Main dinner entry will be provided by SCCCC. Please bring pot luck accompaniments.



Route markers for the 2015 SCMC are, top row, l to r: Jim Denton, Jackie Rall, Captain Tony Rall, Judy and Jack Johnson and John O'Hara. Kneeling are, l to r: Pat Lawson, Pete Pearson and Kathy Ferraro



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.santacruzcyclings.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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Now that the dust has settled from the 2015 Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge, I wanted to say thank you to all the volunteers who pulled together to make this year's ride a success. Here is some of the feedback from event surveys: "It was excellent, one of the best rides I've ever done." "Burritos were delicious! Any chance of beer next year?....." "Beautiful quiet roads, great climbs!" "Great volunteers, killer home made breads!"

I was at the Baskin Patio from 0dark-hundred until 8 p.m. The live music added a mellow and relaxing touch to a lovely outdoor setting, with the distant sounds of Petronella ordering folks around in the background. Unlike other rides I've been to, where people grab a bite and leave, the riders stayed and socialized. Lots of tired but happy faces.



When we were notified in the spring that Scotts Valley High School was not taking reservations more than 90 days out, we scrambled to find a new location. New routes were planned and re-planned. (Google Earth was used extensively.) I was pleasantly surprised to learn from UCSC that it is relatively quiet for them "up there on the hill". And, the folks up there were easy to work with. Another plus—several new captains stepped up this year, handling their responsibilities with ease.

Registration—wise, we had fewer riders than we hoped for (just under 400) and so we'll be turning to you for ideas to help with marketing the event more come January. We ventured into online

advertising with Facebook and a dozen or more online calendars and email blasts. We're tossing around the idea of going to businesses and offering a discount if they get X number of people to form a 'team' and come ride. (Yahoo, Google, Ebay, etc) I'll also be looking for corporate sponsors willing to make a cash donation in exchange for advertising. Please feel free to email me or any board member with ideas for how we can get the word out next year. And thanks again for all your help!

—Maura Noel, SCCCC President

October bike meeting

Equity is the theme of the bi-annual California Bicycle Summit for bicycle advocates. It will occur Oct. 25-28 at the Wyndham Bayfront Hotel in San Diego. **More info at:** <https://calbike.org/2015bikesummit/>

UCSC start, new routes for bike club's annual Mountains Challenge



Susan Rosenthal encourages morning riders, top photo, while Lori Deng and Leo An ride West Cliff on their way back to Baskin Circle during afternoon portion of the Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge



Right photo, Han Wen of Saratoga, rider, and, far right photo, Zach Black of The Bike Station Aptos, who helped out at Baskin Circle. Below Sammy the Slug was cheerleader/guide for freshman orientation, while afternoon rider, below right, makes his final approach to Baskin Circle at end of ride.



Volunteers help give Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge good vibes



L to r: David Giannini and rider, Steve Troth and brother Rocky, Bruce Dau, Barbara Moore, Massimo Corporale, John Moore, Captain Tim Thomas and Leonard Moore at Greyhound Rock Water Stop



L to r: Ginger Anderson, Captain Deb Berardo and Jack Dilles, Captain Jeff Brody, Event Director Maura Noel, Captain Tom Mattison and Captain Marilyn Marzell



Left to right: Earl Rosebraugh, Captain Chris Benkert, Larry Tierney and Regina Faulkner

L to r: Jane Ferguson, Julie Morken, Laura Mitchler and Lilly Ann Popken at Baskin Circle



L to r: Brian Johnston, Linda Wiles, Linville Lee, Tori Dubiel, Captain Janet Fogel, Paul Edwards, Paul Dubiel and Captain Leonard Foreman



L to r: Captain Lisa Beaudreau, Conrad Sudduth, Dave Dominguez, Eileen Beaudry, Norm Boehner, Paula Bradley, Peter Liu and Ryan Woolfbaker of The Bicycle Trip, Michelle Lee, Richard Huffman, Julia and Sean Sheehan with daughter Mallory, 8, Captain Tina Ensign, Julie Monet, Linda Halloran and Cindy Richardson

'This was the best fun ride I've done!' 'Try to make Alba less steep'



L to r: Pete Pearson and Barbara Kasa at Natural Bridges Water Stop, Vic Alessi of Scotts Valley and Jason Landis of Los Gatos resting at top of Alba, David and Jeanni Kadotani, Michael Harrison, Captain Petronella van Dam, Eric Scholar, Jo Gondo and Cathy Bonino at Baskin Circle post-ride meal



L to r: Ron and Harriet Riley and Paula Barsamian, Mike Farmer, Captain Ron Olson and Richard Burton at Zayante Fire Station Rest Stop, Jackie Rall (standing), HAM radio man Dan Selling, Captain Howard Burman and Joseph Kemp of St. Louis, MO at water stop on Smith Grade

Mountains Challenge rider offers thanks, suggests new ideas for next year

Dear Friends, Saturday's adventure in the Santa Cruz Mountains was an unforgettable experience for me. I had spent many childhood weekends and summer vacations in the area, and just last year, ended my regular visits after the death of my elderly mother, who lived in Aptos. I thought I might be depressed seeing this area without her in it. But no, cycling up and down mountain roads, some old familiar friends, and other new challenges, were exhilarating and healing. Here are the best parts of the ride for me.

The ride staff: Everyone I met at the crossroads (I loved having people pointing out the turns, and giving advice live!), and the rest stops were friendly and savvy of what riders were experiencing, as they were cyclists themselves. This kind of staffing makes a ride a shared communal joy. Hats off to helpers who gave a day to show out of towners like me a good time!



L to r: Jack Johnson, Linda O'Heron, Margo Hober, Howard Unkeles, Steve Walker, Debbie Texeira; front row, l to r: Mary Maier and Cathy Bonino

The route: Viewing the routes on the maps you provided on the club website led to my deciding to ride this year. I love the roads at the north end of Santa Cruz; I feel safer on them than those at the south end and in North Monterey County. I could see bail-out possibilities and ways to customize the route should it prove too taxing for me on the day. Thank you, Pete! (Peter Jones) You did a fabulous job planning our mountain experience and tour of Santa Cruz.

The food: As I am gluten intolerant, I just brought my own bars and gels. The webpage didn't reveal what we were going to find at the rest stops, just that it would be good. AND IT WAS! There were even gluten-free options!! I loved the "real food" emphasis and I enjoyed the fruit, hardboiled eggs, V-8 juice (!!!) and cool Italian sodas. Lunch was adaptable to my diet and fueled my ride home. Of course, dinner back at Baskin Circle was great. I ate the chocolate-brownie ice cream first!

I love the jerseys: that they are made by Voler, a California company, that they come in two color options (orange and yellow for me, and dark blue for those cool riders who like that look), and you can order them before or after the ride.

As a Southern California cyclist, I am

used to climbing our unshaded mountain roads with a Camelbak in 90 degree summer temps. Here, the clear weather never topped the mid 80's, and most of the climbing was deeply shaded. Wow!

Here are a few suggestions for 2016:

- 1. Update the webpage for the SC Mountain Challenge.** More and more "new climbers" look for challenges every year who are not familiar with Santa Cruz. Instead of long, 20-mile high mountain passes to scale, the rider has steep Cat 1 and 2 climbs of 2-4 miles to conquer. I would emphasize how perfect climbing here is in the summer: great roads AND cool temperatures. Add elevation gain to each climbing section of the (downloadable) route maps. A good approach to profiling the climbs is used by Breathless Agony. They even load videos on their site. Also, I like to check a "who's registered" list to see who of my friends are going before I sign up. That might be an easy, cost-free feature to add.
- 2. Have SCMC advertising available at earlier rides in California.** Maybe you did this, but I didn't see any and I get all sorts of bike ride advertising via email and snail mail. Thanks again for a wonderful day of cycling!

—Yours, Naomi D.

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: David Lawrence at thewizarddavy@gmail.com. "Light" 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 in Corralitos for a moderately paced road ride of 25-45 miles.

Saturday, September 5 **A/B Ride**
Monterey Bike Path hills behind Monterey
Meet at Pezzini Produce Stand, (Nashua Rd. at Hwy 1 at 8:45a.m. for 9 a.m. start. Carpool at CCC/Jade St. at 8 a.m. A Ride=50mi/3000'; B=40mi/2400' Lunch at Turtle Bay Taqueria.
Ric Eiserling.....831-475-5397

Saturday, September 5 **C Ride**
Royal Oaks via Beach, Lewis, 129, Carlton
Meet by 8:45 a.m. at the West Marine back parking lot in Watsonville for a 9 a.m. start. Ride is 30.4mi/875'; 29 FPM.
Petronella van Dam.....831-454-6010

Saturday, September 12 **A/B/C Ride**
Fall Potluck Lunch and Ride
Meet at Nisene at 8:45 for a 9a.m. start. Potluck lunch at Jim Wheeler and Harriet Wrye's house;
Routes TBA (watch for email week of ride)
Toby Ferguson.....408-386-9343
Ralph Edwards.....831-535-2659

Saturday, September 19 **A/B Ride**
Headin' for the Hills

Meet at Scotts Valley Park & Ride at 9:45 for 10 a.m. start; Mt Charlie, Black Road (A's); A=45mi/5500; B=37mi/3600
Catherine Van Rhee.....408-219-8626

Saturday, September 19 **C Ride**
La Honda via Stage, La Honda, Pescadero Creek
Start at 10 a.m. in Pescadero (parking lot); 28.0 miles/2249', FPM 79.
Bill McBride.....831-239-6081

Saturday, September 26 **A/B Ride**
Eureka Canyon and More
Meet at CCC at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start; climb Eureka Canyon to Summit Store; Laurel Glen/Rodeo Gulch after lunch; A=59mi/4036'; B=44mi/3125'
Alan Ekloff.....831-332-1383

Saturday, September 26 **C Ride**
Fort Ord via Monterey Bike Path
Meet by 9:45 a.m. at Pezzini Produce on Nashua Road off Hwy 1 for a 10 a.m. start; Ride is 32.3mi/1331', FPM 77.
JT Hart.....831-234-7726

Saturday, Oct 3 **A/B Ride**
Bonny Doon Climb
Meet at Gateway at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start
Bonny Doon Road to Empire Grade; A's go to Lockheed
A Ride=50mi/4464'; B Ride=37mi/3700'
Tom Mattinson.....831-566-8247

Saturday, October 3 **C Ride**
It's a Mystery!
Brian and Camia Chapman.....650-740-4169

Saturday, Oct 10 **A/B Ride**
San Francisco Bay – Fleet Week
Meet at CCC (Jade St./45th Ave.) at 7 a.m. to carpool. Start 8:45 a.m. at AT & T Park or 9 a.m. from Ferry Building; ride to Tiburon/Larkspur/ return via ferry. Ride range 23mi/1200' to 45mi/2500'
Peter Jones.....831-234-5555

Saturday, October 10 **C Ride**
Gazos Creek to San Gregorio via Stage Road, Hwy 1
Start at 10 a.m. at Gazos Creek Parking Lot; 25.8 miles/1755', FPM 61.
Marilyn Marzell.....831-345-0567



SCCCC volunteers for Santa Cruz Mountains Challenge await the start of their own challenging routes on Saturday, July 18.

Saturday, October 17 **A/B Ride**

South County Adventure

Meet at Nisene at 8:45 for a 9 a.m. start; Hazel Dell/Mt Madonna/
Gizdich A Ride=60mi/4500'; B Ride=55mi/3240

Chris Boman..... 831-475-5902

Saturday, October 17 **C Ride**

Gizdich. Carlton, Hazel Dell

Ride starts at 9 a.m. at Corralitos Market area. 25.2 mi/1198',
FPM 48.

Ralph Edwards.....831-535-2659

Saturday, Oct ober 24 **A/B Ride**

Zayante and Beyond

Meet at Felton Fair Parking Lot at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start; A Ride:
Zayante /Soda Springs/58 mi/6800'; B Ride: Zayante, Bear
Creek, Quail Hollow/31mi/2800'.

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

Saturday, October 24 **C Ride**

Aptos via Harbor

Start at 9 a.m. on S Main St/ Soquel near Michael's on Main/Beer
Thirty. 25.8 mi/1360', FPM 53.

Barbara Moore.....831-239-1790

Saturday, October 31 **A/B Ride**

San Juan Bautista via Crazy Horse Canyon Overpass

Meet at Kirby Park at 8:45 for 9 a.m. start

A=57mi/5907';B=43mi/3320 feet; clockwise route

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

Saturday, October 31 **C Ride**

Aromas to San Juan Bautista

Starts at 9 a.m. at Aromas School. 30.9 mi/2459', FPM 79.

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

Saturday, November 7 **A,B,C ride**

Pescadero/Half Moon Bay/Gazos Creek

Meet in Pescadero Parking Lot at 9 a.m. A's and B's ride to
HMB on inland roads; A=56 mi/5288', B=43 mi/3488'; C's=San
Gregorio/Hwy1/Gazos Creek Road/Pescadero (29 mi/1755)
Lunch for A/B's at San Benito Hotel; C's lunch in Pescadero.

Grace Voss.....(cell) 831-247-8878

Thank you to July/August ride leaders

First time leaders Marcus Cato, Richard Burton and Bruce
Dau, veteran leaders Jim Denton, Alan Eklof, Tony Rall
(2), Ric Eiserling (2), Michael Burns, Isabelle Magnin, Jack
Johnson (2), JT Hart, Tom Pennello, Ron Olson, Allison
Garcia, Chris Boman, Bill McBride, Toby Ferguson David
and Jeanni Kadotani, Bart Coddington, Tom Mattison
and Brian and Camia Chapman, Jack Johnson, Marilyn
Marzell, Bruce Fihe, Lilly Ann Popken (2), Joyce Rollins,
Jim Wheeler and Harriet Wrye.

What is an area bike ride ambassador?

Area Ambassador is a bicycle routes program aimed at
encouraging more publicity for favorite local, national and
international bike routes. Its website is: <http://ridewithgps.com/ambassadors>.

If you have a favorite route anywhere in the world, send in a
cue sheet and/or photographs, as well as a short ride description
to Toby Ferguson (toby.h.ferguson@gmail.com).

Swanton Loop Challenge for 50 riders

The Homeless Garden Project is sponsoring the Swanton
Loop Challenge, a pledge bike ride for 50 riders starting a 9
a.m. Saturday, Oct. 24 at Kelly's Bakery, 402 Ingalls St. Entry
fee is \$50 and participants are asked to raise up to \$500.
Dinner at the garden, located at Delaware and Shaffer roads
begins at 3 p.m. prepared by Austin Kaye of Back Porch.
Fundraising help available. Go to <http://www.sustainevents.homelessgardenproject.org/#!/the-swanton-loop-challenge/cb6j>

Ohana ride Oct. 24 for cancer care

The U'ilani Fund presents the 6th annual Ohana Ride for
Breast Cancer on Saturday, October 24. All proceeds from
this Hawaiian-style event help local women in breast cancer
treatment access the benefits of complimentary care such as
acupuncture, massage and herbs. This year's ride stages from The
Seymour Marine Discovery Center and offers three scenic routes,
25, 45 and 65 miles. All routes include rest stops, a delicious
lunch and a full luau (including mai tai's) at the ride's end. Once
again Patti Maxine and her band will entertain, along with
dancers from local hula schools. Registration is \$100. For more
information go to uilanifund.org, and click on Ohana Ride. This
event is limited to 85 riders.

Why removal of train tracks will hurt, not help rail trail

(Amelia Conlen—photo at right— is the executive director of Bike Santa Cruz County. Her editorial, reprinted here, first appeared in the July 25, 2015 *Santa Cruz Sentinel*.)

Bike Santa Cruz County (formerly People Power) has advocated for the Coastal Rail Trail project since its inception in 1991. The trail will connect our county, providing a safe place to bike and walk, as well as make riding a bike for daily trips a viable option for more county residents. The trail is our top priority project and has tremendous community support. We are thrilled to see it moving forward.

So far, three Coastal Rail Trail segments have been funded: a 4,000-foot segment in Watsonville near West Beach Street, a 2.4-mile segment on the Westside of Santa Cruz, and a five-mile segment on the North Coast from Wilder Ranch parking lot to just past Laguna Road. These projects should be completed in the next 3-4 years.

Concurrently, the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) recently released the Passenger Rail Feasibility Study, giving rise to vocal opposition to passenger rail. Many people claim that removing the train tracks will ultimately benefit the trail project.

While the RTC has yet to determine whether passenger rail is economically feasible, Bike Santa Cruz County believes that removing the tracks would be bad for the trail and for people who ride bikes in Santa Cruz County. Here's why...

Removing the tracks puts the trail on hold: Abandoning the train tracks, or even studying the option to do so, puts our relationship with the California Transportation Commission (CTC) at risk. The CTC provided funds to purchase the rail line specifically to provide rail service, and abandoning the tracks would likely mean having to return the funds. Abandoning a rail line also requires

federal approval. This process could lead to years of bureaucratic wrangling, which would delay trail funding and construction.

Studying the option to abandon the tracks also raises questions about the RTC's commitment to the Rail Trail Master Plan, since the plan is built around maintaining the option for rail service. Without an agreed-upon plan, how can we move forward with building the next segments of trail?

The Coastal Rail Trail has great momentum right now, with more than 25% of the 32 miles of trail funded, and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County and the Coastal Commission committed to raising millions of dollars for the project. Let's move forward, not backwards, and put our collective energy towards getting the rest of the trail built.

Preserving transportation options for the future: Whether or not



passenger rail is feasible in the short-term, we should keep this option open. One-third of Santa Cruz County residents do not drive, due to age, disability, income level or choice. These folks need convenient, safe and low-cost ways to get around. Traffic on Highway 1 will only get worse as our population grows, and eliminating an alternative option will make travelling across the county even more difficult. Bikes and passenger rail are complementary; rail service can extend the trips of people on bikes, and bikes make it quick and easy to travel between your home or workplace and the nearest train station. Giving people an alternative to driving will take cars off the road, encourage biking and walking trips, and reduce the headaches of people stuck in traffic on Highway 1.

Bike Santa Cruz County, together with Friends of the Rail & Trail, continues to work with local leaders to ensure that the trail remains a top-priority project. These two groups raised \$42,000 to support the Westside trail segment, and they continue to support grant applications and advocate for additional trail funding.

Open Streets growing; electric bike bill details

Two Open Streets events will take place the same day, one in Santa Cruz and the other in San Jose. Locally, West Cliff Drive will be closed from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 11. Open Streets welcomes people of all ages to walk, ride their bikes, skate and visit information booths from the Lighthouse to Natural Bridges.

The spirit of Open Streets has crossed over the Santa Cruz Mountains. The City of San José and the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, with support from the Knight Foundation, announce the inaugural Viva Calle San Jose on Oct. 11. The event extends from Saint James Park downtown to Emma Prusch Park. Learn more at www.vivacallesj.org.

ELECTRIC BIKE BILL

An electric bicycle access bill, authored by Assembly members David Chiu

(D-San Francisco) and Matthew Harper (R-Huntington Beach) is working its way through the State Senate. If passed and signed by Governor Jerry Brown, it will open thousands of bicycle paths to low-speed, electric bicycles (i.e. maximum speed 20 mph)

The bill prevents low-speed e-bikes from going over 20 mph (except under 100% human power). Local agencies may ban electric bicycles from specific paths, but existing bans against motorized bicycles (which by definition includes electric bicycles) would no longer apply to electric bicycles.

AB 1096 also removes electric bicycles that can go up to 28 mph from the definition of "motorized bicycles", considering them intended for the roadway, not bicycle paths.

—Rhoda Bike

Watsonville vice mayor promotes bicycling for all citizens

Felipe Hernandez, vice mayor of Watsonville, was so enthusiastic about the city's first-ever Open Streets Watsonville on May 17 that he convinced three of the city's seven city council members—Rebecca Garcia, Lowell Hurst and Karina Cervantes—to buy a bike to participate in the event, which attracted several hundred people. (He also bought a black cruiser bike for the occasion, using it again on the first-ever Community Bike Ride in July.) Both efforts are part of Hernandez's philosophy of involving more Watsonville citizens in community events. (Open Streets Watsonville was introduced to the city with the help of bicycle advocate Saskia Lucas.)

"If I'm going to ride a bike for my own health, I want to get everyone involved," says this friendly, outgoing man who grew up in Watsonville and is dedicated to improving its image as a thriving, multi-cultural community. To that end, Hernandez has sponsored several National Night Out events, local street get-togethers where police reach out to the community at neighborhood gatherings. "It's a way for the police and the community to interact in a positive way," Hernandez says.

Another outreach effort was a community



Watsonville vice mayor Felipe Hernandez on new bike
bike ride in June which Hernandez wants to repeat in September to promote unity and personal health. (Hernandez, 43, is a large man who has come to realize the value of physical activity.) As a dog owner, he also sponsors community dog walks.

"I have always loved Watsonville, especially the festivals in The Plaza," he says. "I want to combat any negative stereotypes that exist."

One community project which has encountered some bumps in the road is an effort to narrow a two-block section of Main Street, starting at the Pajaro River and extending to The Plaza. The project will convert four lanes of traffic to two lanes, allowing bicycle lanes on each side of the road, and it will include more bike racks. Not all city council members considered this change positive, although Hernandez argues that it will promote businesses downtown. A test run of the project for three months is still in discussion.

For Hernandez, a bicycle-friendly Watsonville includes the following: an open streets event every year, green bicycle lanes on all arterial roads leading to downtown, more bike racks and/or bike lockers in strategic areas, completion of the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Rail Trail from Lee Road to the city's slough trail system and a "bicycle culture" involving more than day workers who must ride their bikes to get to their jobs. Hernandez encourages more people to attend city council meetings, especially bicyclists!

Riding the rail trails of Pennsylvania is transformative experience for Marilyn

My recent bicycle adventure opened a new and wondrous world of rail trails. From June 21-26, club members JoAnn Smith, Betsy Schwartz, East Coast Carol and I biked 196 miles (25-48 miles a day) of Western Pennsylvania on the 15th Annual Sojourn organized by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, a Washington D.C. based group whose mission is to create a nationwide network of trails. (About 1600 rail trails covering 19,000 miles exist in the US.)

Arriving in Coraopolis, near Pittsburgh, 276 riders from 43 states were bussed to Cumberland, MD, where we began the Sojourn on the Great Allegheny Passage rail trail (GAP), crossing the famous Mason-Dixon line and the Eastern Continental Divide.

The GAP actually starts 100 miles away in Washington, DC. Railroad lines usually follow a grade of 1-2% so, excepting the first day of 1800 feet of climbing on an historic former rail line, the tour was relatively



Rails to Trails bicyclists are l to r: Joann Smith, Marilyn Marzell, guide, East Coast Carol and Betsy Schwartz

flat and car-free.

All participants rode hybrid bicycles, as the trails are compacted gravel and not paved. We rode through re-purposed tunnels and over multiple scenic bridges.

Pennsylvania had been besieged by rain and flooding before (and after) the ride so the Youghiogheny River that we rode beside was a brown, raging torrent. Though thunderstorms threatened every day, it only rained on us for five miles, as well as a couple of nights as we lay cozy in our tents.

JoAnn had sprung for the Comfy Camper service, so we arrived at camp with our tents set up, mattresses inflated, and chairs and towels awaiting. We slept on softball

fields. Breakfasts, dinners and sometimes beer offerings, prepared by the local community, were usually served in firehouses, allowing the Sojourn to infuse capital into local economies.

Many of the towns, formerly thriving coal and steel communities, have fallen on hard times due to the loss of local industry. Some are being revitalized by tourism and the rail trails.

On our free day in Ohiopyle, PA, we could choose river rafting or a visit to Frank Lloyd Wright's famous homes including "Falling Water", an architectural wonder built over a waterfall.

After dinner in the firehouse in Dunbar, 10 local musicians, young and old, filed in for a homespun hootenanny, including an 85-year-old female yodeler on guitar.

The experience of rail trail riding through new communities was an unexpected delight. I hope to do more riding on the rail trails in other parts of the country. Wanna join me?

For more info <http://railstotrails.org>

—Marilyn Marzell

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 seven days—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 seven days 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—10A,–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

Sprockets
1420 Mission Street
426-7623
Monday–Friday, 9 AM to 6 PM
Saturday—8 AM to 6 PM
Sunday—9 AM to 5 PM

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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.santacruz cycling.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	___New Member ___Renewal Member ___Include on Printed Roster ___Add to SCCCC Email list
2nd Member First Name	2nd Member Family Name and Email	One Year Memberships ___Individual \$25 ___\$30 for RR Mail* ___Family \$35 ___\$40 for RR Mail* ___Junior \$10 ___\$15 for RR Mail*
2nd Member Contact Telephone	2nd Member Cell Phone	Three-Year Memberships ___Individual \$60 ___\$75 for RR Mail* ___Family \$90 ___\$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, 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Club Ride GP	2	3 Swanton TT 6 p.m.	4	5 Club Ride
6	7 Board Meeting 7 p.m.	8 Club Ride NMP	9	10	11 Sign up to lead a ride!	12 Ride/Potluck
13	14	15 Club Ride GP	16	17 Ride Safely!	18	19 Club Ride
20	21 SCMC captains 7 p.m.	22 Club Ride NMP	23	24	25 Go for a bike ride!	26 Club Ride
27 Go for a bike ride!	28 Ride Safely!	29 Club Ride Leader's Choice	30 Clean your bike!	1 Swanton TT 6 p.m.	2	3 Club Ride
4	5 Board Meeting 7 p.m.	6 Club Ride GP	7	8	9 Sign up to lead a ride!	10 Club Ride
11	12	13 Club Ride NMP	14	15 Volunteer to lead a ride	16	17 Club Ride
18	19 Go for a bike ride!	20 Club Ride GP	21	22 SCCCC Meeting 7 p.m. Simpkins	23	24 Ohana Ride Swanton Loop Ride
25	26	27 Club Ride NMP	28 Clean your bike!	29	30	31 Club Ride
					GP is Gateway Plaza	NMP is Nisene Marks Park

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



SCCCC
PO Box 8342
Santa Cruz, CA
95061-8342