Roadrunner

A Bi-monthly Publication of the Santa Cruz County Cycling Club

September - October 2002

website: www.santacruzcycling.org

Volume 31, Issue 5

Dear Fellow Cyclists,

Our club continues to grow with new members bringing new energy and ideas. We welcome all of you and encourage your involvement in our many activities. Scott Campbell, our rides leader, is expanding the ride schedule to reach more riders, so check it out and mark your calendars today!

The October General Meeting will be important as we are electing our officers and directors for 2003. Our nominating committee did a great job filling all offices. See their article in this issue, and if you want to run for an office, let them know.

For those of you who read my last letter prior to our trip to the Baltics, let me tell you that the boxes did, indeed, get shipped to Tallinn where they waited until our arrival, four weeks later. We couldn't have asked for a better first experience in cycle-touring! Our tandem Bike Friday fit in the luggage compartment of buses, fit neatly beside us on trains, and had only one minor cable break in over 600 miles of riding. The Baltic countries are beautiful, flat with gentle rolling hills in river valleys, inexpensive, and provide a lovely tailwind if you travel east! Our cycle-tour guru, Betsy Schwartz, contributed her experience, love of adventure and bold spirit to make for a trip we will long remember.

I wish you great fall cycling,

Janet Fogel, President

Fall General Meeting

Monday, October 28, 2002
7:00 pm
Simpkins Swim Center
17th Avenue, Next to Shoreline Middle School

Program:

Election of Officers
Bicycle Adventure Club
Swap Meet

After we elect the wonderful people who have volunteer to serve as officers next year we will celebrate with a short program and our first Swap Meet.

Saskia Lucas will report on her adventures running a bicycle summer camp. She planned outings to various points of interest for her campers and included bicycle safety lessons in each ride. Through her slides and stories you too can experience travel by bike with a small pack of high energy kids.

Yes, there will be refreshments! Enjoy your cookies while shopping at our first ever Swap Meet. Martha Bedal and Eileen Beaudry will have cashiers available to handle sales of items clearly marked with the sellers name and the price so you can enjoy shopping for new treasures while disposing of the old.

What to bring: all things bicycle: clothes, parts, bikes, accessories, panniers, etc. they will be arranged in categories.

How to bring it: well marked with price and your name (or "club" to donate it).

To bargain or trade: find the owner.

Disclaimer: all unsold items must be claimed at the end of the evening or they will be donated to the bike church or such.

Questions? Ask Martha (marthab@cruzio.com/460-1818) or Eileen (eileenbeaudry@aol.com/458-1785)



Welcome New Club Members:

Allan Lonnberg Tom Hiltz Kristin Dyer and Eric Lechner James Nee

The following memberships will expire in September and October:

Sarah Beaver Michael Cox David Gill and Simone Montez **Brad Goodwin** Ian Lawless and Monica Bascio Gene Lytle Marilyn Marzell Jeff Mendiola and Donna Buchholz Frank and Vita Pritchard Michael Wallis **Byron Weston** Helga Wiench

Don't forget to sign and date the membership application found on Page 7 and send it along with with your new membership or renewal dues. It is important to protect you under the liability policy the club holds through the League of American Bicyclists (LAB). We think it is so important that you aren't "really" a member until you sign the form.

Kudos to Monica!!

Monica Bascio reports from the August handcycling competitions in Germany that she is now the champion womens hand cycler with a silver in the road race and a gold in the time trial. Monica's first racing crash and fast recovery in the road race for second is captured on video. She waiting to hear that hand cycling will be included in the 2004 Paraolympics in Athens before buying her tiecket. (mbascio@hotmail.com)

Mark Your Calendars Now!!!

Santa Cruz Mountains **Challenge Volunteer Thank You Party**

Sunday, October 13

Over 100 volunteers supported 368 riders on our century ride on August

They received many thanks from the cyclists as they were fed, watered and sag supported throughout the day.

Now we want to thank all of you who volunteered with a party just for you!

Sunday, October 13 at 1 pm at the Swann House. Please RSVP so we will have

enough food for you and to receive directions for riding or driving to the party! (Lilly Ann: lapedals2@aol.com/ 427-3438)

Second Annual All Day Eat & Ride

Satruday, October 19

Also known as the progressive dinner for the more genteel, this is the day that we spend as much time eating as riding. OK, that's what we do on every club ride but, this time it is intentional and everybody is expected to bring something to share. If your last name starts with A-E please bring dessert, F-M a side dish (salad, veggie, etc.) and N-Z please bring hors d'oeuvres.

We will begin with coffee andnibbles at the home of Earle Coutant, 119 Moore Creek Rd. (at the top of Western Dr). If you come up High St past UCSC take a left on Western and then a right at the first opportunity. Bringall food to Earle's and it will be magically transported to the appropriate homes. Questions? Call Lilly Ann 427-3438

The Roadrunner is the official newsletter of the Santa Cruz County Cycling Club. It is published bimonthly, mailed free to all members, and is available at local bicycle shops, bookshops, etc. Submissions (articles, photos, etc.) are gladly accepted. Email or a diskette are easiest, but we'll entertain all options.

Contact us at: SCCCC P.O. Box 8342 Santa Cruz, CA 95061-8342, or on the web at www.santacruzcycling.org

SCCCC is a nonprofit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code.

| OFFICERS |
|------------------------|
| President |
| JanetFogel 438-0706 |
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| Linda Correia336-5864 |
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| Eileen Beaudry458-1785 |
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| Chris Boman 479-1817 |
| Membership |
| Fancy Bulley 684-1231 |

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|------------------|----------|
| Lilly Ann Popken | 427-3438 |

| Ride Directors | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Scott Campbell | 479-3575 |
| Herb Greenfield | 685-8914 |

| Race Team Director | |
|--------------------|----------|
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| Newslet | ter | |
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The Roadrunner

Remembering Bill Peete

by Piet Canin

Last month tragedy struck a Scotts Valley family when Bill Peete (50), husband, father and grandfather, was killed by a motorist while bicycling in San Jose. The accident, which is still under investigation, occurred while Peete was on a lunchtime ride with co-workers. He is survived by his wife Sue Peete; daughters Carly and Tammy; son Colin; and grandson, Christopher.

While Bill was taken from this world quickly, he lived fully and had many friends. Peete was an unassuming man who touched you with his unconditional kindness, friendly nature, generous compliments and modesty. Bill always greeted you with his warm, wide smile which made you feel welcome, even into the tight-knit bicycle racing group.

Shortly after high school he met his wife-to-be. They fell in love, married and raised a loving family. Shortly after marrying they moved to the Scotts Valley area and Bill got a job as an electric designer. Although he down played his talents to his friends, Bill distinguished himself at work through his hard work. Peete never stopped learning, and as he increased his skills, he moved on to several high-tech companies in Santa

Cruz and the Santa Jose area, never struggling to find a job as an integrated-circuit designer, even during the recent economic downturn.

Peete had several passions in his life and through these he met and influenced many people. He enjoyed riding motorcycles and racing bicycles, designing websites and listening to and playing folk music on his guitar. "Bill rose every weekday morning at 3am to check email and play his guitar for an hour before leaving for work," says Sue Peete. "He made time for the things he loved to do - bicycle, play and listen to music."

In fact, their relationship flourished with their common love for folk music. They would go to upwards of two concerts per week, intimate house concerts and events as far away as Colorado. The two traveled on Bill's Harley Davidson motorcycle, which is named "The Flyer," after the title of Bill's favorite Nanci Griffith song. Griffith was Bill's favorite artist and he even designed a website for her.

The Peetes devoutly followed several folk musicians such as Denise Franke, Louise Taylor, and Eddie from Ohio. And at Peete's funeral another music fan shared scores of emails from a folk-music newsgroup grief stricken over the news of Bill's death.

The Peetes met at a party at Sue's house when she was a high school senior in Thousand Oaks, California. On their first date they went to a Three Dog Night concert, thus beginning their concert-going tradition. They married in 1972 and moved to Scotts Valley where they shortly began to raise a family. Bill was the sole wage earner as Sue stayed home and raised the kids.

"We took two weeks off every summer for camping trips to places like Yosemite and the Grand Canyon," said Sue. Bill also hiked with the kids in the local state parks.

The Peete family used bikes to get around town and Bill taught his grandson to ride a bike. Bill and Sue completed the grueling Davis Double Century ride several times on a tandem. When a friend asked Bill how the 200-mile ride was, he said, "It was easy; Sue did all the work." "Bill always gave other people the credit," explains Larry Broberg, one of Bill's best friends.

Good friend and former bicycling teammate Ron Davis recounts, "Bill was the kind of guy that would congratulate you when you beat him up the mountain, and downplay it when he beat you. I remember when he won the Pope Valley Road Race, beating several of Northern Californian's best, including ex-pro Dave Walters. He simply said, 'I don't know what happened; I just rolled away from the lead group and no one caught me."

"Bill was the guy that everyone was afraid of in a hilly race and he never rubbed it in when he did well; in fact, he would always compliment the other riders he had just beaten on how hard they had made the race and how he just 'got lucky,'" remembers Broberg.

On the contrary, the people who knew Bill were the lucky ones. And they'll carry his spirit with them forever. Contributions for family needs may be made to the Bill Peete Memorial Fund at Comerica Bank, 1960 41st Ave, Capitola, Ca. 95010(contributions can be made to any branch).

September-October Insert

Mother Goose Goes Riding

by Saskia Lucas

If geese rode bikes, then I would have been Mother Goose. At least I felt a close kinship to her and all mother geese of the world as I rode proudly in an orange safety vest at the lead of a string of seven kids on bikes during Bicycle Adventure Club this summer. Perhaps you saw our little train of smiling, talkative 9-12 year olds with backpacks modeling safe and courteous riding on the multi-use path at Pleasure Point or West Cliff Drive. You may have been one of the pedestrians who was passed to an echo of "passing on your left" as each child rode by you. Or maybe you were one of the drivers who saw our group signal left with arms outstretched and yielded to let us merge and turn in front of you at a congested intersection. I couldn't keep from grinning in pride and amusement at these and other moments: to hear the children call "car back" one by one down the line to give those of us in front the heads up. To appreciate these vignettes you must know that the majority of the participants in bike camp had very little street riding experience outside of riding around their block.

Another rewarding teaching moment was when Liz, a participant in the first session, turned to me and flashed a knowing smile after recognizing the word "pannier" at the beginning of a bicycle safety presentation by volunteer Heath Maddox. Heath was describing how he had converted his old Bridgestone mountain bike into a commuter bicycle. She knew the term because just the day before the kids had learned basic bike part and gear terminology in a "get to know your bike" lesson.

The speed at which the kids began to independently use their new skills amazed me. If only my French students during the regular school year responded so enthusiastically to course content! It was refreshing and fun to teach material directly applicable to the students' immediate *real* world and which responded to their interests. My instruction appealed to their self-preservation instinct, as well, since they were being given the keys to survival on the mean streets and treacherous trails.

My original goals in designing this pilot class were to take the children on fun rides and to teach them traffic safety skills, basic bicycle maintenance and flat repair, and bike gear information. While teaching the class, however, I realized how much I'd left out of my curriculum which I consequently had to improvise as it came up. Try explaining how to stand up on the pedals to a boy who's absorbing every bump with his butt while you're both bombing down a fast fire road. He keeps yelping "ouch" and you suddenly realize he doesn't know how to get out of the saddle and use his legs as shocks. You'd think this solution would come instinctively! Yet, I realized how many cycling skills I take for granted and do unconsciously and assumed the children knew too. They knew how to ride a bike after all, right? I didn't expect to have to teach how to gear down to ride up a hill or that higher pressure tires makes riding easier. Nor did I expect to have to order a boy who was bonking to eat a Cliff Bar after my gentle suggestion that he eat something was rejected. Such a sudden and drastic drop in physical energy and morale was foreign to him and he didn't know what he needed to recover.

One of the things which most impressed me as a first-time bike camp leader was how eager the kids were to challenge themselves. When we came across imposing rollers or steep single-track with tight switchbacks, the kids would beg to be allowed to ride them. According to the class description, the off-road riding was supposed to be limited to "fairly flat" fire roads but I decided it was important to let the children push their limits occasionally when an opportunity presented itself. An event on the last day of the first session, however, forced me to seriously question this position. Eleven year old Saul, one of the natural leaders of the group, sped down a short section of single-track on the Wadell Creek fire road, lost control in the turn at the bottom and crashed head-on into a tree. For a minute, I thought my bike camp leading career was over. Luckily, he and his bike walked away from the collision with little more than a dazed look and a new story that he "meant to do that."

Some of my favorite memories came from watching the lessexperienced riders taking risks and pushing themselves to try new and intimidating skills on their bikes. Frequently the more experienced riders, always sniffing around for the next opportunity to be daring and show off, would discover some bike "trick" to do. After watching them do it, the newer riders would intrepidly follow and tackle the obstacle in kind -≠ not always successfully, but that didn't matter. On one memorable occasion the volunteer assistant ride leader and I were relaxing on the bandstand at the Santa Cruz Wharf after sharing a satisfying lunch of clam chowder, calamari and fries with the campers. After eating, in typical fashion, the children were immediately back on their bikes riding around. At first their activity was limited to corralling pigeons. The next thing I knew, Saul, one of my biggest dare-devils, rode down the stairs of the bandstand (fairly short and widely spread). Before I could tell him to stop, Liz, a much less experienced bicyclist, followed him down the stairs with a nervous but excited whoop. I was so impressed at her courage and ability that I wasn't sure what to do. In those few instants of paralysis, more children followed suit and since no one seemed to be getting hurt and the kids where having so much fun, I let them continue. Some impressed tourists even stops to watch. At the end of the day during our daily ending meeting, Liz thanked me for letting them ride down the stairs because she didn't think other teachers would have let them do that. I wasn't sure how to take this compliment and ended up feeling a strange combination of guilty pride. In fact, therein lay one of my biggest challenges during camp: how to balance allowing the children to take risks while setting appropriate limits to keep them safe. A common concern shared by all mother geese, I'm sure.

[Bicycle Adventure Club was a summer camp offered through the Santa Cruz Montessori School. Two sessions were held: a one-week mini session which met everyday for six hours a day and a four week session which met three days a week for six hours a day. The SCCCC generously allocated funds for scholarships, which, however, went mostly unused. One \$125 scholarship was given to a girl who participated in the first session.]

SCCCC Membership Application/Renewal Form

The Santa Cruz County Cycling Club is a group of cycling enthusiasts with a wide variety of interests and abilities. A bimonthly newsletter is published with a schedule of rides and announcements. Annual membership dues are \$15 for individuals, \$20 for Family, \$8 for Juniors (under 18), Race Team members add \$5.00 to dues per person.

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Special Insert in This Edition

You will notice that the ride schedule has been moved back inside the newsletter this month. Due to the increasing length of the schedule it was not possible to get it cleanly positioned on a single insert page.

You'll notice that the insert contains two special articles, one by Piet Canin as a memorial to Bill Peete, and the other by Saskia Lucas describing her wonderful experiences leading this summer's Bicycle Adventure Club.

Happy Reading!

Club E-Mail List

Don't forget that the club has it's own e-mail list for communication among members.

To become a member, send an e-mail to majordomo@employees.org. In the body of the e-mail enter the following message: "subscribe scccc [insert your e-mail address here]". You should receive a confirmation e-mail.

You will need to respond to that e-mail, and when that is done you will automatically be added to the subscription list.



If you are interested in advertising bike related clothing or gear, email tbengt@cruzio.com, and it will be posted here at no cost.

Upcoming Club Meetings

All Meetings 7:00pm Simpkins Swim Center

October 28

All members are welcome to attend monthly board meetings at The Hub, 224 Walnut Street, Santa Cruz, at 7:00 pm.

The next meeting dates are:

September 9 October 14 November 11 December 9



Santa Cruz County Cycling Club P.O. Box 8342 Santa Cruz, CA 95061-8342

DATED MATERIAL



