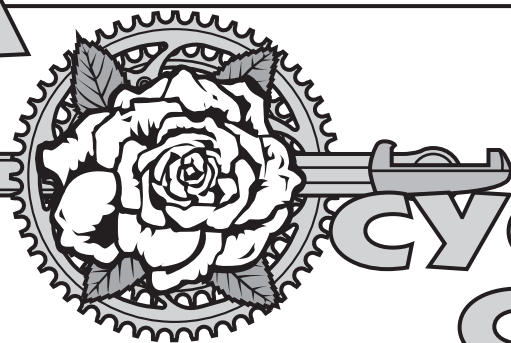


SANTA ROSA



CYCLING CLUB

DECEMBER 2006 NEWSLETTER

2006 Grants/Donations Report

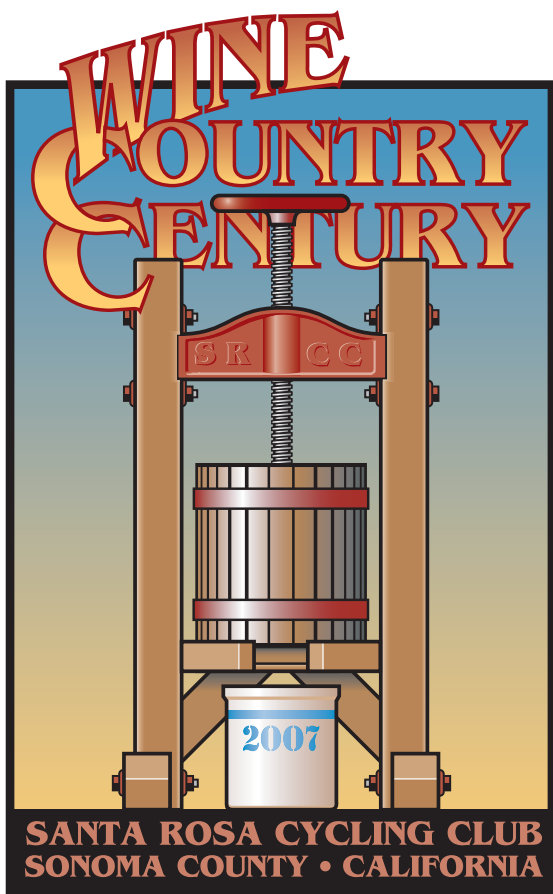
Each year, the SRCC allocates excess revenue for grants to various charitable organizations and cycling-related projects. This is money generated primarily by the Wine Country Century and Terrible Two—entry fees and merchandise sales—and “excess” money represents what is left over after expenses have been covered and seed money has been set aside for future events and other contingencies.

The club membership decides who receives the grants. Donation survey forms are circulated at the club picnic (around Labor Day) and at the September meeting, and the results are used to establish members’ priorities. The list of potential grant recipients on the survey forms represents those receiving grants in past years plus any new organizations added by specific requests of members. (To suggest an addition to a future list, make your wishes known to the Board.) Of particular note is the omission of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition from the list for 2006. This is not because the club has ceased to support the organization, but because they are already receiving a substantial contribution from the club based on a per-rider assessment drawn from WCC entry fees.

Survey forms were collected from slightly more than 100 members. Out of a total membership of over 500, this is not a huge sampling, but it’s the best we have been able to manage with our current system. If you feel your wishes or priorities are not being represented here—and if you did not turn in a survey form—then you need to either attend the events in question and fill out a form, or you need to talk to someone on the Board about logging your vote in some other way.

At the October meeting, reports were distributed showing the results of the survey and the resultant allocation of grant moneys. The members then voted to approve the donations as calculated. Here are the results.

Sonoma County Trails Council	\$1500
Big Brother/Big Sister of Sonoma County	\$1500
Community Bike Project	\$1500
LandPaths	\$1000
California Bicycle Coalition	\$1000
Free Wheels	\$1000
Ross Dillon Hope Fund	\$1000
Safe Kids Project	\$1000
Sonoma County Radio Amateurs	\$1000
Earl Baum Center of the Blind	\$1000
Team Swift	\$1000
Lance Armstrong Foundation	\$500
Canine Companions for Independence	\$500
Diabetes Society (local chapter)	\$500



Go to the WCC page at srcc.com to see a full-color image of the new WCC artwork for 2007.

The graphics for the 2007 Wine Country Century are simple: a classic wine press, celebrating the region’s rich wine making heritage. Aside from the bold WCC title font, artistic embellishment has been kept to a minimum. The elegantly functional old press provides all the graphic punch the image really needs. If you’re searching for symbolism in the design, you could say the press—embossed with the initials “SRCC,” is going to be squeezing the best the vineyards have to offer into the bucket labeled “2007.”

We will hope that is an appropriate metaphor. But we’ll do more than hope. We will plan and organize and work diligently between now and May to see that everything is in readiness for the big show.

MINUTE MIX

Highlights from the General Membership and Executive Board meetings for November

- 1. Call to Order:** President Martin Clinton called the general meeting to order at the Round Table on Occidental Road on Wednesday, November 8. 40 members and guests were in attendance.
- 2. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Donna Emery announced that, as of October 31, the checking account balance was \$42,507.50 with \$10,860.91 in savings. Greg Durbin outlined a proposal to transfer some of the club's saving to an insured, interest-bearing money market account. The proposal was discussed and affirmed by vote. Greg also announced that he will have a final budget proposal for 2007 to present to the membership at the December meeting.
- 3. WCC:** Century Chair Doug Simon announced the first planning meeting for the 2007 WCC (for November 13), and he added that he would not at all mind having a co-chair on the WCC. (Anyone interesting in learning the inner workings of this big event should get in touch with Doug.) Publications chair Bill Oetinger presented two variations on the same design for a new graphic for the event to the Board for their consideration. After some discussion, one was chosen. *(See item on page one.)*
- 4. Membership:** Craig Gaevert noted that club membership is fast approaching 600. He also stated that he had sent out updated rosters in pdf format to all e-list members.
- 5. Awards:** The Board conducted a lengthy and spirited debate in selecting recipients for the various semi-traditional, year-end awards to be handed out at the Holiday Dinner on December 8, or in some cases, at the January club meeting. Members are encouraged to add to these awards any other honors or recognition they feel might be appropriate (or amusing) for any fellow club members who had done something special during the course of 2006. The Board agreed to contribute six clothing items as door prizes at the dinner.
- 6. Board positions:** Martin Clinton reminded the members that there will be openings on the Board in 2007. In particular, we are looking for someone to be Secretary, but there will be vacancies for regular Board members as well. Anyone interested in assisting in this important leadership role in club life should make their intentions known to any current Board members before the January club meeting (when the elections will be held).
- 7. Tours:** Bill Oetinger announced that there will be a second club tour in the summer of 2007. *(See preview on page seven.)*
- 8. Locker:** Doug Simon reported on the move of club supplies into a larger locker space at the storage facility. Once shelving is complete, he should be able to reclaim his garage for personal use. Maybe...
- 9. Donations:** Checks have been written and distributed to the various organizations selected. *(See page one.)*
- 10. Projector:** Craig Gaevert opened a discussion about purchasing a projector for club presentations. We are currently using one owned by his company, and he is concerned about damage liability. There was some discussion as to whether the use of the projector might be shared with the SCBC. No decision has been reached at this time.
- 11. TT:** Terrible Two Chair Craig Gaevert has requested an increased donation to Analy HS for the use of the facility for the event. Analy has not asked for this. It is our way of thanking them.
- 12. Speaker:** Alfred Masy presented a talk and slide show on his self-supported, solo European tour from this past summer.

Kathy Marie Hiebel

1959-2006

Kathy Marie Hiebel died in a senseless traffic accident in Santa Rosa on November 10, 2006 at the age of 47.

Kathy was born on July 5, 1959 in Alexandria, Minnesota, where she lived until age 5. Her family moved to Novato, where she graduated from San Marin High School. She worked in the beauty field for a few years before earning the needed degree to realize her life's calling as a Registered Nurse (schooling that she completed while a single mother).

She worked at the Sebastopol Eye Center and London House Convalescent Hospital in Santa Rosa before longer term commitments at Sutter-Warrack and most recently Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Santa Rosa.

Kathy treated all people with respect and care and was known for her incredibly high standards of integrity and honesty, as well as the boundless energy she brought to any activity in which she was involved.

Her strong passions for bicycling and recycling in any shape or form, in respect to mother earth, were known by her friends and family. Kathy got into serious cycling about ten years ago and her enthusiasm for the activity grew to involve both off-road and road cycling. She was temporarily slowed a few years back before it was discovered that she had a benign heart tumor. After successful surgery, she hit the road flying and had been riding well ever since. She was tearfully proud to have completed her first Double Century at Davis in 2005, on a tandem with fiancé Maury Cohen.

Kathy is survived by her Mother Betty Elizabeth Cora Hiebel, her son Matthew Dieckmann, her fiancé Maury Cohen, and her 20-year old cat Muffy of Santa Rosa, her sisters Patty Putnam and Linda Brezina (and their husbands) of Alexandria, Minnesota, as well as other relatives and a massive circle of loving friends in the Santa Rosa cycling and nursing communities. She will be greatly missed.

Friends and Family are invited to a memorial service celebrating Kathy's life on Saturday, Dec 2, 2006 at 11:00 am at the Center for Spiritual Living, 2075 Occidental Rd., Santa Rosa.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in her name, to the SCBC, (Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition), PO Box 3088, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-3088 or Thanksgiving Lutheran Church, 1225 Fulton Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

Reception to follow Memorial Service at the Church

- We would like SRCC members to bring a potluck item to share. Members of Kathy's mother's church are also contributing to the potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share.
- Dishes can be dropped off at the church after 9:00 am. Also, someone will be at the ride start to transport dishes to the church.
- E-mail John Miklaucic (jmiklaucic@comcast.net) so we can keep track of what is being brought.
- E-mail Doug Simon (desimon@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to help with the flowers and food prep on Friday, or with set-up at the church on Saturday morning.

BACKROADS & BREAKAWAYS

B&B is a column for and about local club rides, news, gossip, anecdotes, odds and ends. If you have a story to share about a ride you led, your race results, a cycling vacation, whatever...call Bill Oetinger @ 823-9807 or send e-mail to the club's e-mail address: srcc@ap.net.

First, a couple of loose ends from last month. When I reported on Doug McKenzie's Two County Coastal Century ride, I noted that most of the riders finished feeling extremely beat. It was a tough ride. What I failed to mention was that we all would have been much more fried and frazzled if Doug's wife Deanna hadn't been waiting for us in Bloomfield (about mile 80) with a sag wagon full of food and drinks. She was a real life saver for all of us.

I also failed to mention Mark Gunther as one of the clubsters doing the Bass Lake Powerhouse double century on October 14. While on the subject of doubles, I am happy to report that the Quacks have finally posted the results for the Knoxville double on September 16, and I see quite a few SRCCers among the finishers. Mark Gunther is there, along with Brian Carrol, Michael Connolly, Paul McKenzie, John Russell, Mark Sedgwick, and Craig Robertson. This was Craig's first big ride since recovering from that horrible tandem smash-up on the Oakville Grade at the Terrible Two. Nice to see you back, Craig!

One week after the Powerhouse double, PlanetUltra ran the Solvang Fall double, which is a rather more ambitious ride than the Spring version, with a few bigger, steeper hills thrown in. That busy Mark Gunther was at this one too, and so were Denise Prue, finishing her first double ever, and Eric Peterson, who finished in the top 20.

The 2006 edition of the California Triple Crown Double Century Series is now complete, and I have been looking over the results in an attempt to put together a list of all the SRCC members who earned their Triple Crown laurels this year (meaning they completed at least three double centuries this season). With the disclaimer that I may have missed a person or two, here's what I came up with, and it's an impressively long list. All riders listed here—in alpha order—did three doubles unless there is another number after their names...

Brian Carroll, Robert Choi, Scot Combs (4), Bob Feiwell, Mark Gunther (4), Nancy Marinsik, Paul McKenzie (5), Marc Moons, Susan Noble, Eric Peterson, Bob Redmond, Craig Robertson (6), Mark Sedgwick, and Todd Sloan. At least four other members did two doubles: Michael Connolly, Jean Cordalis, Rollin Feld, and Joe Gorin. And several more completed one. Looks like the doubles scene is alive and well in SRCC land. Congratulations to all of you on an awesome job. Wear your CTC jerseys with pride.

One more long-distance item, although it's woefully out of date. Back around April, Phil Grinton did the classic end-to-end journey in Britain. That is, he traveled from the tippy top northern end of the British Isles at John O'Groats to the very bottom southern end at Land's End. I'm not sure how many miles it took Phil to do this. Like transcons in America, there are several routes one can take. But typically, it runs to around 1000 miles. The reason this is so out of date is because Phil is a very modest fellow, and it took my spies a long time to uncover evidence of his stealthy wanderings.

Closer to home, SRCC member and Piner-Olivet School Assistant Principal Jessie Kroeck sent in this note about their recent bike rodeo: "The Bike Rodeo held on October 25 was a great success. Many organizations from the bicycling community came to participate and volunteer for this event. Put on by *The Safe Kids of Sonoma County*, the Bike Rodeo included a memorial service for their former volunteer,

Herb Greenberg. A \$1000 check from the *Santa Rosa Cycling Club* was presented to the organization to provide free helmets to low income families. The *Community Media Center* taped almost two hours of the event for a training video. TV 50 shot a segment and the *Press Democrat* included a write-up in their October 26th issue. After the memorial service, the students were given the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities: registration/bike rider license photos; bike helmet fittings/egg drop demo; a bike safety check by NorCal Bike shop; a safety talk; a fun skills course where they tried out their bike handling skills; and a written test to receive the photo license."

Now then...back to the rides right in our back yard: the club rides we know and love so well. This reporting period begins with a real doozy of a club ride. Donn King and Susan Noble laid on a joint birthday ride with the added sweetener of a potluck party at Susan's house after the ride. We all know that free food will bring them out in droves, and this was no exception. The street in front of *chez Noble* was packed curb to curb with cyclists at the start...probably at least 50. In that mix were at least four really handy tandems, each of which found a wide following on the not-too-hilly course that Donn had laid out. The route worked up through the Windsor neighborhood to a mid-ride break at the Oakville Grocery on the Healdsburg Plaza. We pretty much took the place over. Coming back south along the rollers of Westside, the big group split up according to just how fast you were willing to go. There was a very brisk group that bolted off the front, and then assorted little clusters of riders working together, usually with one of those nice tandems near the front. The party afterward offered up more calories of top-quality munchies than we probably burned off on the ride...a net positive on that score, I'm afraid. Thanks to Donn and Susan and their assorted assistants for pulling out all the stops on this lovely fall day in the Wine Country.

One week later—the last weekend in October—brought us two rides. Ken Russeff led the Saturday offering, an AB trek from Cotati down to Tomales. He sent in a brief note: "The Cotamalesaluma Ride report is brief. Twenty-two riders, great weather, and 50+ miles. Nice stop at the Tomales Bakery with a mix of cyclists, a couple of motorcyclists, and a fairly large contingent of Sierra Cub hikers." They used to say that if you sat long enough at a sidewalk cafe on the Place de l'Opera in Paris, eventually everyone you ever wanted to see would go by. I'm beginning to think that now applies to the Tomales Bakery.

Sunday's ride was a more substantial challenge. Brian Carroll and Mark Sedgwick, flush with their success in the California Triple Crown, laid on the classic King Ridge-Hauser Bridge-Myers Grade loop, only they started it from Willowside—rather than the usual Monte Rio—so the total miles worked out to just shy of a century, which is a very tall order, considering the topography on tap. Naturally, this attracted all the hardcore hammers, but it also roped in a lot of regular, recreational riders who can't resist the siren song of King Ridge, especially on a crisp, clear autumn morning. I have forgotten how many people showed up, but considering the challenging route, it was a very good crowd. We have often been nailed by the first rain of the season on this last weekend in October, but this year we were lucky. The weather was absolutely gorgeous, and the scenery could not have been better. The only glitch (for me) was snapping a front derailleur cable mid-ride, leaving the bike stuck in the little ring. But if ever there were a ride designed for just the little ring, this steeply up-and-down frolic would be it. I hardly missed the big ring. The rugged climbs and descents did their usually efficient job of shattering the group, but whenever I crossed paths with other riders

— Continued on page 6

RIDE SCHEDULE

The following system is used in our ride schedule so that riders can estimate the relative difficulty of each ride.

TERRAIN

- 1:** Mostly flat (River Road, Dry Creek)
 - 2:** Rolling, easy grades (Westside Road)
 - 3:** Moderate grades (Graton Road)
 - 4:** Hilly; a few steep climbs (Coleman Valley Road, Franz Valley Road)
 - 5:** Very hilly; lots of long climbs (Trinity Grade, The Geysers, Skaggs Springs Road)
- (If available, elevation gain may be listed.)

TEMPO

Actual ride speed may vary, depending on terrain, distance, weather, and group dynamics. Tempo listing is only a ballpark estimate.

A: relaxed pace; frequent regroupings; waits for all riders. Over 26 minutes*

B: touring pace; regroupings every 30-45 minutes; waits for all riders. 23-26 minutes*

C: brisk pace; pacelines likely; regroupings every 30-60 minutes. 19-22 minutes*

D: aggressive pace; pacelines; slower riders may miss regroupings. Under 19 minutes*

*Times are for official SRCC speed trap: 4.4 mostly uphill miles on Graton Road from Ross Road in Graton to summit at Tanuda/Facendini junction. If you want to know where you fit in on club rides, time yourself on this section (at your normal riding tempo) and compare your time to the list above.

DISTANCE

The last figure in the formula, stated in approximate miles. (If in doubt, leader should overestimate mileage slightly.)

• RSVP WITH RIDE LEADER •

Ride leaders should provide maps and/or route instructions. Riders should carry I.D., cash, flat repair kit, water bottle(s), and have their own map in case they get lost.

HELMETS ARE MANDATORY ON ALL CLUB RIDES!

Non-members are welcome on club rides! (Non-members must sign a liability waiver provided by the ride leader.) If the course seems too long or difficult, the ride leader can generally suggest an alternate starting place or bail-out route.

RAIN CANCELS ALL RIDES, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

RIDES LEAVE PROMPTLY AT TEN MINUTES AFTER THE LISTED TIME.

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 2

Memorial Ride of Silence

10:00 AM • Howarth Park

A ride in honor of Kathy Hiebel will take place before her memorial service. See page 8 for more information on this event.

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 3

Century of the Month

3/BC/100
9:00 AM • Willowside School

R on Hall > L on Sanford > R on Occidental > R on Mill Station > L on Graton > L on Boho > R on Bodega Hwy > R on Hwy 1 > R on Hwy 116 (River) > R on Moscow (*Rest stop in Duncans Mills*) > L over bridge in MR > R on River > R on Sunset > R on Westside > Mill > L on Matheson > R on Grove > L on Healdsburg Ave > R on Alexander Valley > Hwy 128 (*Rest stop at Jimtown Store*) > 128 > R on Chalk Hill > L on Faught > R on Airport > L on Laughlin > Woolsey > L on Oakwild > L on W. Olivet > R on Olivet > L on Piner > R on Willowside...

Bill Oetinger—823-9807

Franz Valley-Chalk Hill

4/B/35
10:00 AM • San Miguel School

L on Faught > L on Old Red > L on Mark West Springs > Porter Creek > L on Franz Valley > L on Hwy 128 > L on Chalk Hill > L on Faught.

Wayne Kellam—523-1878

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 9

SECOND SATURDAY

Valley of the Moon

2/A/28 • 2/B/50 • 3/C/60
9:30 AM • Howarth Park

A route: Thru parks > L on Channel > R on Montgomery > R on Melita > R on Hwy 12 > R on Dunbar > R on Arnold (*Regroup at Glen Ellen Store*) > Retrace via Warm Springs > L on Hwy 12 > L on Pythian > Thru Oakmont > Channel > Thru parks to finish. **B route:** Same as A thru Dunbar, then > L on Arnold > R on Hwy 12 > R onto Sonoma Valley Reg. Park bike path > L on Arnold > R on Craig > L on Carrier > L on Solano > R on Riverside > Straight on Hwy 12 to regroup at Sonoma Plaza > L on bike path behind Vallejo barracks > R on 5th St W > L on Verano > R on Riverside > L on Boyes Blvd > R on Arnold > L on Warm Springs > L on Lawndale (incl. Schultz) > L on Hwy 12 > L on Pythian > Thru Oakmont > Channel > Thru

parks to finish. **C route:** Same as B but add out-&-back from Sonoma Plaza on Lovall Valley.

A: Ken Russeff—953-1804

B: no leader at press time

C: Bill Oetinger—823-9807

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 10

Point Reyes

4/BC/60
10:00 AM • Bear Valley Center

Out-&-backs to Pierce Point Ranch, Point Reyes Light Station, Mt Vision. Option of unpaved fire road back to Inverness.

Bill Dunn—415-269-0591

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 16

Mix and Match Ride

2-3/BC/60-?
9:30 AM • Triumph Life Center
131A Stony Circle, Santa Rosa

R on Stony Point > R on Santa Rosa Creek Bike Path east under Stony Point toward downtown Santa Rosa > Sonoma Ave > L on Hahman > R on Montgomery > L on Mission > L on Montecito (*C option: over Fountain Grove > R on Mendocino > R on Old Red*) > R on Brush Creek > Wallace > L on Riebli > L on Mark West Springs > R on Old Red > Right on Faught > L on Pleasant (*C option: R on Chalk Hill > L on 128, etc.*) > R on Old Red > R on Front > First > L on Piper > R on Fitch Mtn > L on Powell > R on Healdsburg > R on Alexander Valley > L on Lytton Station > R on Lytton Springs > R on Dry Creek (*Rest stop at Dry Creek Store*) > Lambert Bridge > L on West Dry Creek > R on Westside > (*C: out-&-back on Mill Creek*) > L on Wohler > L on Eastside > R on Trenton-H'burg > L on Trenton > L on River > R on Old Trenton (aka Woolsey) > R on Oakwild > L on W. Olivet > R on Olivet > L on Piner > R on Willowside > L on Hall > L on Fulton > R onto Santa Rosa Creek Bike Path > L on Stony Point > Left on Stony Circle to finish.

Denise Prue—486-2015
Annie Osborn—829-5656

Winter Solstice Double Century & Century

3/CD/199
4:50 AM • San Jose

Co-listed with SRCC, Davis BC, & Western Wheelers. Join Team Bikeaholics for their 10th Annual Winter Solstice Double Century. Route travels from Ken Holloway's house in San Jose through Gilroy to the Pinnacles and back. Limited support with

rest stops every 50 miles. No regrouping required. For more complete information check the Team Bikeaholic web site (<http://www.bikeaholics.org/wsdc-route.html>) and to RSVP, please send an e-mail to...

Craig Robertson
craig.robertson@sbcglobal.net

3/C/111
7:20 AM • Gilroy

If the double sounds too long, you can join us for the middle part of the Double Century. Start and finish at Christmas Hill Park in Gilroy. One rest stop at the midpoint.

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 17

River Rambles

4/C/75-90
9:00 AM • Ragle Park

Ragle > L on Mill Station > L on Sullivan > L on Green Valley > L on Harrison Grd > R on Morelli > L on Camp Meeker > L on Acreage > R on Graton > R on Boho > R on River > L on Westside > L on Kinley > L on Dry Creek > R on Lytton Springs > L on Lytton Station > L on Alexander Valley > Hwy 128 > R on Chalk Hill > L on Faught > R on Shiloh > L on Windsor > Mark West Station > L on Trenton-H'burg > Laguna > R on Vine Hill > L on Hwy 116 > R on Mill Station > L on Ragle to park. *Alternate start: 8:00 AM at Norcal Bike Sport.*

Nikola Farats—535-0399

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 23

Kimberly's Favorites

2/B/40
10:00 AM • Willowside School

R on Hall > L on Sanford > R on Occidental > R on West County Trail to Forestville > L on Hwy 116 > R on Martinelli > L on Old River > Thru Hacienda > L on River > R on Westside > R on Wohler > L on Eastside > R on Trenton-H'burg > L on Mark West Station > L on Starr > R on Reiman > L on Windsor (*Turn into Town Green Plaza for coffee*) > L on Windsor > L on Slusser > L on Laughlin > Woolsey > L on Oakwild > L on W. Olivet > R on Olivet > L on Piner > R on Willowside > L on Hall to end.

Kimberly Hoffman—579-3794

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 24

Up to Healdsburg

2/D/40
10 AM • Piner High

R on Fulton > L on Piner > L on Willowside > R on Guerneville > R on Laguna > L on Vine Hill School > R on Vine Hill > L on Laguna > Trenton-H'burg > L on Eastside > R on Wohler > R on Westside > Through Healdsburg > Old

Red (*Water/rest Healdsburg Beach*) > Continue Old Red > R on Eastside > L on Trenton-H'burg > L on Mark West Station > R on Slusser > L on River > R on Olivet > L on Piner > R on Fulton. Fixies & Single Speeds encouraged, but all welcome!

Doug McKenzie—523-3493

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 30

Last Chance Century

3/BC/100
8:00 AM • Ragle Ranch Park

North on Ragle > L on Mill Station > L on Cherry Ridge > R on Occidental > L on Green Hill > R on Graton > L on Sullivan > R on Green Valley > L on bike path to Forestville > L on Hwy 116 > R on Mirabel > R on Trenton > R on River > L on Wohler > R on Eastside > R on Trenton-Healdsburg > L on Mark West Station > L on Starr > R on Reimann > L on Windsor > L on Windsor River > R on Starr > R on Old Red > L on Arata > Hembree > L on Old Red > L on Pleasant > L on Chalk Hill > L on Hwy 128 (*Rest stop at Jimtown*) > Return on 128 to L on Pine Flat > L on Red Winery > L on Geysers > R on 128 > R on Geyserville > L on 1st > L on S. Cloverdale > Dutcher Creek > L on Dry Creek > R on Yoakim Bridge > L on West Dry Creek > L on Lambert Bridge (*Rest stop at Dry Creek Store*) > South on Dry Creek > L on Lytton Springs > R on Chiquita > R on Grove > R on Dry Creek > L on Kinley > R on Mill > Westside > L on Wohler > L on Eastside > R on Trenton-H'burg > Laguna > R on Vine Hill > R on Green Valley > L on Sullivan > Mill Station > R on Ragle to finish.

Randall Ray—433-2555

MONDAY • JANUARY 1

New Years Day Ride & Party

2-3/ABC/25-50
10:00 AM • Finley Park

A route: L on Stony Point > R on Joe Rodota Trail > Thru Sebastopol > West County Reg. Trail to Forestville & back. *B route:* Same as A to Forestville, then > L on Hwy 116 > R on Martinelli > L on Old River > Thru Hacienda > L on River > R on Westside > R on Wohler Bridge > L on Eastside > R on Trenton-Healdsburg > L on Mark West Station > R on Slusser > R on River > L on Trenton (aka Woolsey) > R on Oakwild > L on W. Olivet > R on Olivet > L on Piner > R on Fulton > L on College to Finley Park. *C route:* Same as B route to Graton, then > L on Graton > R on Boho > Thru Monte Rio > R on River > L on Westside (rejoin B route). *After-ride festivities and munchies at the home of Ron and Sharron*

Bates (1110 Suffolk, near park). RSVP for directions to their home (or to volunteer to help Sharron with food prep).

A: Kimberly Hoffman—579-3794
B: Ron Bates—526-3512
C: Charlie Rowell—585-2695

REGULAR RIDES

Wednesday Wanna-B's

B-tempo • 30-45 miles • 9:00 AM

First Wednesday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa
Vin Hoagland—584-8607
Beth Anderson—874-3685

Second Wednesday: Healdsburg City Hall
Terri Peterson—433-7737

Third Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol
Doug Newberg—579-0925

Fourth Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol
Johann Heinzl—539-7991

Fifth Wednesday: Howarth Park, SR
Bob Briner—799-7146

West County Wednesdays

9:00 AM • C tempo
Front Street Cafe, Forestville

Social C rides of about 3 hours. At least one big West County hill on each ride.

John & Chris Mason—887-1239

Friendly Fridays

2-3/B/25-40 • 9:00 AM
at the following starting points:

First Friday: Cotati Dog Park
Greg Stone—527-6116

Second Friday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa
Martin Clinton—569-0126

Third Friday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol
Doug Newberg—579-0925

Fourth Friday: City Hall lot, H'burg
Warren Watkins—433-4403

Fifth Friday (B group only): Esposti Park
Buck Hall—537-1946

2-4/C/35-50 • 9:00 AM

Same schedule as other Friday rides.

Martha Barton—538-9315

Dave Andersen—537-7745

Todd Sloan—571-1804

2-3/A/25-30 • 9:00 AM

Janice Eunice—575-9439

• FOR SALE •

Gary Fisher Mtn Bike

17" • Less than 100 miles • \$350

AXO Mtn Bike Shoes

Two pair (new and nearly new)

Size 43 (9.5) • \$35 per pair

Marty Powell—528-9592

wandering around in the hills, they all seemed to be having a grand time. How could you not on such a glorious day?

That dispensed with October for another year. The rains finally arrived in the middle of the week, probably dousing the Wednesday ride. But by the next weekend, they had politely finished their drizzly business and gone on their way, leaving the world scrubbed clean and also jump-starting the new shoots of green grass in all the golden meadows. First to venture out into this fresh new world were Denise Prue and four friends who drove all the way to Vichy Springs for her Ride-&-Soak adventure. Denise tells me all went well for her little band of biking bathers. She did note that I had gotten it wrong in last month's write-up about the hot springs. I thought she had told me the springs were *really* hot, but she had in fact said they were not really all that hot. Oh well. They still had a good soak...and ride.

The really hot event on the weekend turned out to be the joint B and C listings for the pilgrimage to the top of Mama Tam on Sunday, November 5. I couldn't believe it when I rode into Fairfax at the start: it looked like a critical mass rally forming up. Cyclists were crammed onto every inch of available sidewalk and curbside pavement. My guess would be 60 riders in all. We've done this same ride or something similar for many years, but never before have we had more than a fat handful of participants. I didn't bring nearly enough maps for all those people, so a lot of them ended up without a guide on what just might be the most complex route on the schedule all year, and off in another county, along many unfamiliar roads. Aside from that little problem, things were ducky. The weather was perfect (especially considering it was the first weekend in November). The endless opening climb immediately strung the big group out into a long thin line with plenty of gaps getting bigger by the mile. But everyone got back together at the summit for the usual panoramic pow wow. Folks kind of, sort of stayed a bit more closely bunched on the descent from the mountaintop, but still the group strung out. The rains of the previous week had left a lot of the roads damp, especially in the shady spots. The twisting descent into Mill Valley on Marion was a real minefield, and most folks tiptoed around the greasy-slick corners with great care. In spite of that care, one rider went down. Bill Dunn slid out in a tight right-hander and hit the pavement very hard on the right side of his face...a classic faceplant if ever I saw one, and I saw this one. I was just behind him at the time. He was knocked cold and pretty mangled up, so those of us on the scene were quite concerned. 911 was dialed immediately, and the paramedics arrived quite promptly. Bill was hauled off to Marin General and fortunately was able to go home later with just a few stitches in his noggin.

By the time one group of riders had stayed back and dealt with Bill and his bike and the medical folks, the larger portion of the group had moved on. I was in the group that stayed back until Bill was sorted out, so the folks in front were mostly working without maps and without the only person who really knew where the hell we were supposed to go. The result was predictable: riders wandering all over the place, finding new and creative ways to get from Mill Valley to Fairfax. From what I've heard, some of the routes were quite convoluted. But then so was the official one. The group that stayed back finally went on with the ride, and most of them stuck to me like glue so as not to get lost. And we didn't! (All of this is about the C ride. Wayne Kellam had at least as many riders on his B ride. We crossed paths with them here and there, and as I haven't heard otherwise, I have to assume they all

had as much fun as the rest of us...not counting Bill, of course.)

The next weekend up would feature the December Second Saturday rides. We were worried about another rain front that appeared headed our way for Saturday morning. But before we got there, other things came up that made worries about sprinkles seem awfully insignificant. On Friday, word began to filter out on the club grapevine that a cyclist had been killed that morning in Santa Rosa. By mid-afternoon, most folks knew it was our own Kathy Hibel, friend and inspiration to many, *finacée* to Maury, who had lost her life under the wheels of a truck while riding to meet the Friendly Friday group. No one could quite believe it: "I just saw her yesterday!" "We rode together last week!" And so on. Sadly, we have to believe it. We're coming to grips with it, just as we have with all of the other, altogether too frequent losses we have suffered lately...Herb and Sandy and Robert. Being part of the wonderful, extended family of the bike club is helping a lot of us to cope with this. We have come together as a community to grieve and support one another. And we will do so again on December 2 at Kathy's memorial service and ride. Check elsewhere in the newsletter for details of these events.

The predicted rain did in fact arrive. The sky cried all night. But by dawn it had cried itself out, and we looked out our breakfast nook windows at blue skies and roads drying out by the minute. Between the threat of rain and the numbing shock of Kathy's death, not too many people felt like hopping on the bike and being recreational. Those of us who were the listed ride leaders felt we had to show up, and aside from us, a few others were at the start as well. A dozen. We talked about it all before we set out, and the conclusion we came to was that it would be good therapy for all of us to get out there and pound a few miles, and that we would carry a little bit of Kathy with us out into the rain-washed, freshly minted west county hills, knowing how much she would have enjoyed being out there with us. It was a lovely day, and it was very good therapy indeed to be out there, alive and awake to the world, and grateful for every minute we are given. Some of the riders peeled off early, turning the day into a short coffee run up to Windsor. Most stuck around for most of the B ride, and a few carried on for all of the C ride, including the out-&-backs on Salmon Creek and Fitzpatrick (both Fitzpatricks).

Sunday of this weekend was set aside for our semi-annual Adopt-a-Backroad clean-up party along West Dry Creek Road. On our last litter day, in May, over on Chalk Hill, we only had 17 people show up. This set off some alarm bells, sounding out the question of whether the club was really committed to continuing this program. To some extent, that question was answered when over 50 people showed up at Healdsburg City Hall on Sunday morning to don their day-glo vests and grab their glad bags for the trash patrol. There were so many people who did such an efficient job that we not only cleaned all of West Dry Creek, but also all of Yoakim Bridge and Canyon Roads and even part of Dry Creek Road. It's entirely possible this is just a seasonal deal: that people have too many other irons in the fire in the springtime. We'll find out in six months. It may also be that many people showed up on this gray Sunday because they needed the comfort of company to grapple with the senseless absurdity of Kathy being taken from us so suddenly. And for sure, when we gathered for lunch after the litter was all cleared away, it was the only topic at every table. This was probably as therapeutic for all of us as a good hard ride. Thanks once again to Richard Stone for organizing this wonderful project, and let's please see if we can't find at least a co-chair for next May to help Richard with the planning. He's done this one long enough. It's someone else's turn now.

• THE MID-STATE TOUR •

June 2-9, 2007

410-250 miles • 29,000' (or less)

If one club cycle-tour is a good idea, could two tours be even better? That's the thinking that has prompted the club to offer a second one-week cycle-tour for the summer of 2007.

We haven't abandoned our big Northern Oregon Tour, but we are going to offer another tour that is designed to be slightly more accessible. It will be a little closer to home and a little shorter on bike miles, and it will offer some form of shorter, easier route on each of its six stages. (But the longest, hilliest options each day will still be quite challenging.) It also doesn't move around much, using only three campgrounds total, with multiple loop rides from those base camps...less set-up and take-down of your tent and camp! It is also one day shorter than the Oregon Tour. We'll drive home on a Saturday, leaving Sunday free for decompressing and doing a week's worth of cycling and camping laundry.

The stages are recycled from two of our previous tours, the Condor Country Tour of 2001 and the Central Coast Tour of 1997. If you recall those tours, you will be able to figure out that this is a tour in the mid-coastal region of California. Four of the stages are in or near the Santa Ynez Valley (Solvang-Santa Barbara area) and two work out of a base camp in Paso Robles. We will drive—not ride—from the Solvang area to Paso Robles to connect the two hubs, but that drive day will also include a full stage to be ridden after the short drive. While three of the stages will be almost the same as on the previous tours, the other three will incorporate some old roads in new routes that will allow them to function as loops from a central hub.

We will drive on Saturday, June 2 to Sage Hill Group Site in the Santa Ynez Mountains, halfway between Solvang and Santa Barbara.

Stage 1: Camino Cielo Loop; 61 or 50 miles, 6000'. Climbs from a lovely camp on the wild Santa Ynez River to the mountain village of Painted Cave, then plunges down Old San Marcos Road—not San Marcos Pass—to the outskirts of Santa Barbara before climbing back to the ridge on (in)famous Gibraltar Road. Runs the length of the ridge on Camino Cielo—as spectacular a back road as there is anywhere—and finally tumbles off the ridge and back to camp along the old Stagecoach Road, past historic Cold Springs Tavern. No showers at camp, but the river has many lovely swimming holes. Note: the shorter route saves a few miles, but still has to do most of the very challenging climbing.

Stage 2: Sage Hill to Buellton; 75, 60, 50, or 35 miles, 6000' on longest route, much less on shorter routes. Our only point-to-point stage, this gem moves from the high camp at Sage Hill down past Lake Cachuma and into Happy Canyon, one of the prettiest, most bike-friendly valleys imaginable. The longer route climbs up and over Mt. Figueroa on a very hilly, very scenic route...nearly as spectacular as Camino Cielo. All routes visit charming Los Olivos and the quaint Danish village of Solvang. An optional run to beautiful Nojoqui Falls completes the smorgasbord of cycling variety on the day. Finish up at Flying Flags Travel Park in Buellton, a full-service RV and camping resort, complete with showers, pool, and hot tubs. We will camp here for three nights.

Stage 3: Jalama Beach Out-&-Back; 70 or 35 miles, 4000', less on short route. This simple route proved very popular on the Condor Tour. A ride through the bottom lands of the Santa Ynez River—

walnut orchards and meadows—then over a small summit (or two) and down to remote Jalama Beach...and back. Can be turned from an out-&-back into a loop with certain route modifications. Both routes include the optional possibility of a visit to one of the best preserved and most extensive of the California missions: La Purisima Concepcion.

Stage 4: The Canyons Loop; 61 or 46 miles, 4000', less on short route. This is the essential Santa Ynez Valley cycling experience. It's a loop around four great back roads: Drum Canyon, Cat Canyon, Foxen Canyon, and Ballard Canyon. Each road has its own personality, and collectively they add up to an excellent ride, sometimes in the woods, sometimes out across open meadows, and often amidst the "Sideways" vineyards of the valley. The short option is offered because it's there, but most won't feel the need nor the desire to shorten this relatively easy, very scenic loop.

Stage 5: Western Paso Robles Loop; 73, 53, 44 miles, 4500' or less. Drive from Buellton to Templeton—approximately 80 miles—park the car pool fleet and set out on an exploration of the coastal hills west of Paso Robles. York Mountain, Santa Rosa Creek, Old Creek, and Peachy Canyon are the featured attractions, plus a visit to the seaside villages of Cambria and Cayucos. Short-course riders will retrieve the cars and drive on to camp in Paso Robles, while the long-course riders will get there on pedal power. Shortest option avoids the climb on Old Creek. Camp for two nights at the fairgrounds in Paso Robles (where we stayed on the Central Coast Tour).

Stage 6: Northern Paso Robles Loop; 70 miles, 4500' or 60 miles, 3400'. The longer route takes a hilly meander along magical Adelaida and Chimney Rock Roads before joining the shorter course on Lake Nacimiento Drive for the climb past the lake, over the summit, and down into the next valley at Jolon Road. Through the little town of Bradley and then up remote, peaceful Hare Canyon and down Indian Valley and along River Road back to Paso. Scenery is similar to the rest of the tour: the central coast's classic early California landscape of oak-dotted meadows, wooded hills, and premium vineyards.

Cost: \$350. Look for a joint entry form for both this tour and the Northern Oregon Tour in the January newsletter.

End of the year: update your on-line logs

As we roll on into the dark days of winter, full speed ahead for the finish of 2006, let us remind you and urge you to update your on-line logs at the SRCC website.

There are two all-year logs. There is the commute miles log, where you can record all the bike miles you have done on errands or commutes, including commuting to ride starts, that have kept a car off the road. All those who have created a log will be eligible for prizes in a drawing at the January meeting. The more miles in your log, the better your chances of winning some juicy bike swag.

The other log is our new Century-a-Month log, which is sort of misnamed, because you can record any and all centuries completed, all year long...not just the designated centuries listed in the ride calendar. Solo rides, big group rides, club rides. Anything close to 100 miles counts. Doubles count as two centuries.

Now that the rainy days are here, take on this rainy-day task: go back through your personal log book and find all those miles—commutes or centuries. You probably will be surprised at how many miles you've accumulated in one category or the other. Then transfer all that data to the club site where all your friends can see and admire it.

SANTA ROSA CYCLING CLUB

**PO Box 6008
Santa Rosa, CA 95406**

President: Martin Clinton569-0126
Vice-President: Craig Gaevort545-4133
Secretary: Adrienne Ruggles525-0353
Treasurer: Donna Emery546-6359

Officers at Large

Greg Durbin528-4450
Doug Simon577-0113
John Miklaucic545-3470
Gordon Stewart823-0941
Ron Bates526-3512

Bill Oetinger (newsletter editor, ride director) 823-9807
Bill Osburn (webmaster) 477-6974
Annie Osborn (meeting program coordinator) 829-5656
Sharron Bates (club apparel sales) 526-3512
Craig Gaevort (membership registration) 545-4133
(cgarch@sonic.net)

SRCC website: <http://www.srcc.com>

E-mail: srcc@ap.net (Bill Oetinger, e-mail wrangler)

Membership applications available at website.



The Santa Rosa Cycling Club is a social/recreational organization comprised of cycling enthusiasts with a wide range of abilities and interests. Our purpose is to promote the safe and efficient use of bicycles through club rides and events, and by maintaining an active presence in the local community. We encourage a large and vital membership and try to provide rides for all abilities. We publish a membership roster and a monthly newsletter and ride calendar. We hold a general membership meeting and an Executive Board meeting once each month.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, December 13 • 6:30 PM
Round Table Pizza
(Occidental Road, west of Stony Point)

Christmas cookies...BYOC.

Wednesday, January 10

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Open to all interested members)

Thursday, December 7 • 6:00 PM

TLCD Architecture • 111 Santa Rosa Ave. (SW corner at 1st St)
Door open between 5:45 and 6:00pm • After that, call 478-9387

Thursday, January 4

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



Member:

LAB • CBC • CABO • REBAC • SCTC • IMBA • SCBC

• Memorial Ride of Silence •

Saturday • December 2
10:00 AM • Howarth Park

A three-mile Memorial Ride of Silence will travel from Howarth Park to the Center for Spiritual Living (2075 Occidental Rd) preceding the service for Kathy Hiebel on Saturday, December 2.

This is not a recreational ride, nor is it a stage for political theater. It is our way, as cyclists, of honoring the memory of our friend Kathy (and also all the other members of the SRCC family who have been taken from us in recent months: Greg Godwin-Austen, Carson Boyd, Herb Greenberg, Sandy Karraker, Robert Rand).

The route: down Sonoma Avenue, around City Hall (R on D, L on 1st) to the Prince Memorial Greenway; exit the path at Pierson, then follow 3rd and Stony Point to Occidental Road.

As much as possible, we will ride in silence and single-file or at most two-up. We will attempt to keep the group together and may regroup on the Greenway if signals have split the group. Pace will be slow: this is a procession, not a paceline.

Cycling apparel is considered appropriate for the service, but we hope to have allowed enough time for people to change out of bike clothes at the church, if they wish to do so.

See page 2 regarding reception and handling of potluck dishes.

Parking at the start is limited. Riding to the start is encouraged. Secure bike parking at church, courtesy of the SCBC.

For more information: Bill Oetinger, 823-9807, srcc@ap.net.