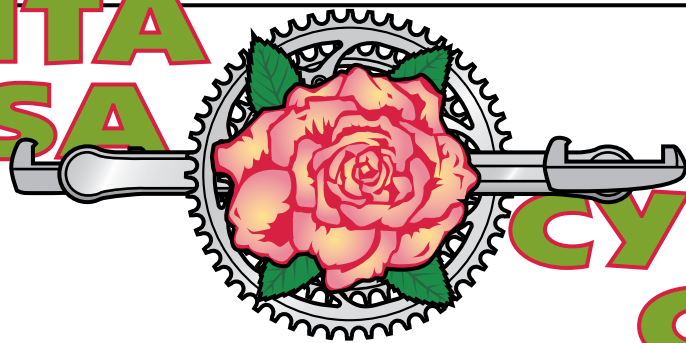


# SANTA ROSA



NEW YEAR'S DAY  
RIDE AND PARTY!  
Info on pages 2 & 4

# CYCLING CLUB

## JANUARY 2009 NEWSLETTER

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who led a ride in 2008. You are the heart and soul of this bike club. If we didn't have bike rides, we wouldn't be a bike club, and you are the folks who took the time to think up and plan and list all of the hundreds of rides that the rest of us enjoyed so much over the course of the past year.

To the other 90% of the club members who did not lead a ride this year: we hope to see some of your names on this list next year.

- Steve & Barbara Drucker
- Carole Kolnes
- Richard Stone
- Bill Oetinger
- Joe Conway
- Bill & Evelyn Ellis
- Wayne Kellam
- Jack Hartnett
- Tony Lee
- Dave Batt
- Ken Russeff
- Tom Helm
- Rose Mello
- Martin Clinton
- Randall Ray
- Janice & Mike Eunice
- Robin Abramson
- Steve & Jessie Kroeck
- Jim Draeger
- Donn King
- Sue Bennett
- Alan Bloom
- Beth Anderson
- Vin Hoagland
- Eric Peterson
- Jeff Burton
- Alfred Masy
- Ed Steiger
- Johann Heinzl

- Bob Briner
- Greg Stone
- Doug Newberg
- Warren Watkins
- Buck Hall
- George Gallegos
- Craig Gaevvert
- Bill Dunn
- Doug & Deanna McKenzie
- Janice Oakley
- Emilio Castelli
- Chris Wilson
- Joe Morgan
- Wes Hoffschildt
- Rich Fuglewicz
- Mike Leach
- Rick Sawyer
- Matt Wilson
- Jose Mundo
- Sid & Linda Fluhrer
- Bill Carroll
- Greg & Jan Conklin
- Kimberly Hoffman
- Kirk Beedle
- Mike McGuire
- Tony Buffa
- Vicki Duggan
- Tom Bahning
- Robert Hall

### • Holiday Dinner and End-of-Year Awards •

Approximately 175 Santa Rosa Cycling Club members filled the venerable Druids Hall on Saturday, December 13 for our annual Holiday Dinner and year-end awards presentation. Attendance was down very slightly from last year's record crowd, perhaps for no particular reason or perhaps because this year's date was a week later than usual and therefore in competition with other engagements during the heart of the holiday social whirl.

For those able to attend, the evening was its usual festive affair, with everyone dressed up in their best evening togs—not a bit of lycra to be seen—and the hall decked out in boughs of holly, or some reasonable, seasonal substitute. (We normally end this article with a word of thanks to those who put the whole project together. For a change, let's salute those hard-working volunteers up front: Sharron Bates and René Goncalves were once again in charge of all the logistics, from registration to coordinating the food service to decorating the facility, and they did their usual crackerjack job on all fronts. A big round of applause, please, for Sharron and René and all of their helper elves...for this dinner and for so many other past dinners and picnics which they have organized.)

The main course for the dinner—the prime rib, chicken, or lasagna—was catered by the resident Druids, with the balance of the banquet coming courtesy of our club's members: a potluck smorgasbord of appetizers and desserts that offered something for every taste and plenty of it. Encouraged by the no-corkage policy at the hall, many patrons brought along a bottle (or three) of their favorite vintage to share with their table mates. It all added up to a substantial repast; a well-stocked feed zone located exactly halfway between the big feasts at Thanksgiving and Christmas: something to tide you over and keep your winter insulation fully plumped up.

While the assembled human hoovers were vacuuming up all the food in sight, they were entertained by our annual year-end awards presentation, this year emceed in fine form by club President Craig Gaevvert and club Secretary Donn King. Craig kicked things off with his year-in-review speech, recounting all the highlights of the past year in club life: the WCC and TT, the two tours, the brevets, the picnics, the parties, the rides, etc. Then the tag team got down to the business of awards. Before hitting their full-tilt emcee stride though, they briefly turned the mic over to Ride Director Bill Oetinger for the Ride Leader of the Year awards. This is a simple matter of accounting: who listed the most rides in the club calendar over the course of the year? Honorable Mentions went to both of the 2007 winners, Janice Eunice and Wayne Kellam. The winners for 2008 were Rose Mello and Ken Russeff. (See item at left thanking ALL the club members who led rides in 2008...a stalwart crew.)

Beginning with the entry-level awards, Rick Sawyer and Kim Nelson were the recipients of the Rookie of the Year awards. Moving slightly up the food chain, Matt Wilson and Linda Grayson were honored as Most Improved riders. Matt went from being last year's Rookie sensation to finishing 9th in the men's field in the California Triple Crown Double Century Stage Race this past year. Linda Grayson surprised us all by morphing from a sag driver on past tours into a very capable and enthusiastic rider on 2008's mid-summer tour.

The Most Inspirational awards are among the most subjective of our tributes: what defines

— Continued on page 6

## MINUTE MIX

Highlights from the General Membership and Executive Board meetings for December

- 1. Call to Order:** President Craig Gaevert called the general meeting to order at the Round Table on Occidental Road on Wednesday, December 10. 42 members and guests were in attendance.
- 2. Treasurer's Report:** Donna Emery announced the club's bank account balances, as of November 30.
- 3. Membership:** Gordon Stewart reported 439 individual and 233 family memberships.
- 4. Rides:** Ride Director Bill Oetinger passed around the calendar for January ride submissions. He noted that we have three leaders for the New Year's Day rides and that everything is in readiness for the party that follows the rides. (*See article at right and ride listing on page 4.*) He also noted that we will not be able to offer a Tour of California preview ride in February, as we have done the past three years, due to the route chosen for the Stage 1 approach to Santa Rosa (Pettrified Forest Road and Calistoga Road). While the roads will be closed for the actual race, they would be business-as-usual for a club ride on the day before, and the heavy traffic on Petrified Forest would make that an unpleasant and possibly dangerous adventure.
- 5. Drawings:** Craig Gaevert asked Bill Oetinger why we have not had a Ride Leader drawing for the past two quarters. Bill confessed that the traditional feature had simply fallen through the cracks. We should have drawn two names each for \$25 prizes in September and December, so to make up for that lapse, we will draw four names at the January meeting. Anyone who led a ride between July and December will be included in the drawing.
- 6. Jerseys:** Sharron Bates brought a sampling of red rose club jerseys to the meeting for anyone wishing to purchase them. Price for the jerseys is \$50.
- 7. Holiday Dinner:** René Goncalves and Sharron Bates reported that the Druids had doubled the rent on the hall for the Holiday Dinner. Membership is asked to help look for an alternate site for the 2009 party.
- 8. Roadside clean-up:** Mike McGuire reported on the November cleanup on Chalk Hill. He expressed his thanks to everyone who participated in the project: Judy & Ken Russeff, Wendy Sternberg, Gordon Stewart, Jack Hartnett, Greg and Jan Conklin, Steve & Barbara Drucker, Martha & Sally Barton, John Russell, Alfred Masy, Chris & Laurie Buettner, Randy Gruhn, Larry Wendt, Jess Robel, Alan Bloom, Sue Bennett, Kathy Storin, Susan Hester, Rich Grimm, Jon Dick, Bill Oetinger, and Richard Battles.
- 9. Budget:** Greg Durbin presented the 2009 budget proposal, and reviewed expenses and income for 2008. Membership approved the 2009 budget.
- 10. Elections:** A Nominating Committee announced the names of candidates running for the at-large positions on the Executive Board for 2009. John Miklaucic and Joe Morgan are stepping down. Rick Sawyer, Randall Ray, Kimberly Hoffman, and Jose Mundo join incumbents Gordon Stewart, Martin Clinton, and Martha Barton in running for the five at-large seats.
- 11. Featured presentation:** Several club members provided discs with slide shows from assorted, recent cycle-tours. Home-made Christmas cookies kept us fueled up during the tour recaps.

## • January Meeting • Elections and Other Good Stuff

The January meeting is our traditional date for electing a new slate of officers to run the club for the upcoming year. But there will be more going on at the meeting than just politics. We will be handing out a few more awards and will be holding a raffle of great bike goodies for all present who have participated in the Commute Miles on-line log. If "one less car" bike-commuting isn't its own reward, then here's the added incentive to do the rides and then enter your numbers in the club's interactive log.

(Be sure to update your 2008 commute miles log at the club website soon. The more trips and miles you have, the more chances you have of winning some swell swag in the drawing at the meeting. And while you're at the club site updating that log, take a minute to bring your Century Challenge 2008 log up-to-date as well.)

There will be another sweetener at this meeting. In order to encourage a good turn-out so that we have a healthy number of votes cast in the election, we will reward you for showing up by giving you a voucher for a free lunch at Healdsburg's El Sombrero taqueria after the club's annual Free Lunch Ride in March. Actually, we don't pass out hard-copy vouchers anymore; we just take down everyone's name and check them off on the day of the ride/lunch. However we handle it, it's a good deal for you, the club members who show up to vote.

---

## New Year's Ride and Party

We are having an open house and party at the club warehouse as our New Year's Day get-together, just as we did last year. A set of ABC rides will stage out of nearby Coffey Park, and after the rides, we will cruise north to the barn to chow down on a spread of pot-luck munchies provided by the members. We will have someone with a car standing by at the start to collect pot-luck items. We plan to have the club's big barbecue smokin' as well.

While the parking lot at the warehouse is big, it may not be big enough to handle all the cars generated by a big turn-out for the New Year's ride, so we expect folks to park near the park/ride start and commute the few blocks to the warehouse by bike. In the event that the rides are rained out, the open house will still be happening, and we hope most folks will find a way to keep the total volume of cars down in the warehouse lot. Carpooling would help.

The address is 4023 Coffey Lane, 1/4-mile past Dennis Lane on the left. Look for more information on the rides in the Ride List.

*The open house is an RSVP event.* RSVP's are being handled through the club web site. In the "Calendar of Rides and Events" section, you can sign up for the New Year's Party and list your potluck choice. All the details are there. This event is members-only: not open to the public.

Sharron Bates and René Goncalves are in charge of logistics for the party. They would appreciate a little assistance from a few folks in setting up the party and cleaning up afterward, and probably in managing the barbecue during the party. Call or e-mail either one of them if you can help. Sharron: 526-3512, technical@randalnutritional.com; René: 544-1918, leslierene@hotmail.com.

## 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 Oettinger @ 823-9807 or send e-mail to: srcride@sonic.net.*

First a little club tour item: we had promised to have promos and links to entry forms for both the club's 2009 tours in this January newsletter. But what with the crush of to-do chores in the weeks before Christmas, it was just one thing too many to get done. Sometimes the volunteer stuff has to take a back seat to real life. Look for the special tour insert in your February newsletter. In case you need to make long-range vacation plans, the dates for the tours are as follows... Blue Wallowa (seven stages): July 18-26; Santa Cruzin' (five stages): October 4-9. The Blue Wallowa Tour involves a good deal of travel, being way up in the wilds of northeast Oregon. Its stages are longer and there are more of them, and some of them have substantial climbing, although none of the climbing is especially steep. It involves two nights in hotels and the balance in camps, moving every day. Santa Cruzin' is shorter and much closer to home (as the name promises). It is based out of one campground hub and never leaves that base, so no shifting the camp gear every day. While the stages are shorter, the fact that it explores the Santa Cruz Mountains suggests that some of the miles will be hilly.

Now then, for the present, we will turn away from those future considerations and look backward to the recent past, as in recent club rides. We rejoin our never-ending saga with another edition of Steve Drucker's Lotsa Hills and Two Rocks ride on November 22: "It was a little nippy to start but became a nice cycling day: clear and sunny. We had about 20 riders, including a few newcomers. Going out, the C's took off with the B's chasing. On the return leg, the fastest C's had gone ahead and a very compatible group rode together for a great ride of quality miles before the Thanksgiving feasting in a few days."

The next day, Rose Mello—our newly crowned Ride Leader of the Year—had an AB ride out in the same approximate area, beginning at the Rouge & Noir Cheese Factory: "We had 24 riders. I was a little worried that it would be foggy at the Chesse Factory with it being foggy here in Santa Rosa and in Petaluma, but once outside of town it was clear. When we left Point Reyes, Bill Dunn took us through the back roads from town just to stay off Hwy 1. The Marshall Wall: what can I say other than I think everybody was probably saying a word or two under their breath at me. But once at the top, the view was so beautiful—you could see the ocean—and then a nice downhill and back to the Chesse Factory for lunch."

One week later—after that Thanksgiving feasting—Tony Buffa had a short but intense BC ride featuring the steep climbs on Harrison Grade, Coleman Valley, Bay Hill, and Joy: "Seventeen cyclists showed up at Ragle ready to ride. Several folks mentioned that they might take alternate routes. The sun came out on Harrison Grade and the faster riders went ahead. After a regroup in sunny Occidental, we stretched out along Coleman Valley. When I led the last of the riders up to the roadhouse on the coast, I was surprised to see more than half the group enjoying the sun and a beverage. We pretty much stuck together the rest of the way home. What a great group of folks to come out and join me on this challenging ride." In his e-mail, Tony asked me where I was that day, as I usually make his rides (being his almost-next-door

neighbor). I was up in Chico for a family Thanksgiving. I took the bike and did about 3/4's of the Wildflower route on Friday to burn off some of that turkey and pie. You may recall the area suffered through some terrible fires in July, up around Paradise (the fires that smoked up our mid-summer tour). I am happy to report that, wherever they burned, the damage cannot be seen from the Wildflower route.

That same day, Ken Russeff—our other 2008 Ride Leader of the Year—was leading an AB ride up to Healdsburg: "Departing from Piner Youth Park with 18 riders at the peak, we faced a cold, wet fog much of the way to our break at the Oakville Grocery, where the outdoor fireplace was very popular (but is almost useless in generating heat). The fog dissipated somewhat for the ride back, but a headwind brought down the chill factor. Discounting one flat, a chain problem, and a couple of adjustments, we all survived and everyone had a good time, I think. About 41 miles total."

There were two rides on the last day of November. Vicki Duggan and Tom Bahning had a joint birthday ride heading out of Healdsburg. Vicki reports: "The day did not get off to a propitious start. Tom was sick and I was getting sick, so as we drove to the start in 42° and extremely foggy weather, we were sort of hoping that no one would be there and that we could go home to continue couch surfing. There was a small group waiting for us, so about eight of us started out to ride Mill Creek. We had one out-of-towner, Mike Aberg, who was visiting family for the holiday and decided to come on our ride. The group was very friendly and kind, and even though their riding abilities ranged from very fast (Henry, or 'the guy with the carbon rims'), to me, who was off the back all day, they cheerfully waited for me at the turnaround points. Tom was able to ride about half the distance, parking himself in sunny places to keep warm, and riding directly to the Dry Creek Store to wait for us to do the West Dry Creek out-&-back. We ended up cutting the ride short about five miles or so, the group deciding on a more direct route back to town, but it ended up being a very fun day. We got lots of positive comments about the route, and the fog did eventually burn off, so by midday it was fairly warm and nice. Other than the under-the-weather status of the ride leaders, all was well. We experienced no flat tires or other mechanical adventures. I apologize that I didn't get everyone's names, but they made the day for us, and we hope to see them on the road again." I'm not sure if Vicki knows this, but out-of-towner Mike Aberg is almost a member of the SRCC family, having done the Terrible Two almost more times than anyone else.

Meanwhile, somewhat closer to home, Dave Batt was leading an AB ride out of Howarth Park: "Eleven people showed up for the ride. Martha Barton led us through Oakmont at a B pace, with Irene and me bringing up the rear with a guest, Sara. Beautiful Fall day. At the kiosk in Sugar Loaf State Park, three of us went to the top of Bald Mountain for some views, while the rest of the group explored a different route home through Oakmont."

December kicked off with Robert Hall listing a ride out of Analy High School. Robert has been working with kids at the school to form a cycling club that wants to be affiliated with the SRCC. This was his first attempt at bringing the two groups together. Here's his report: "I guess lately all rides are going to be cold. My ride had about 22 people. Most were SRCC members but some weren't, and there were four Analy students, although one showed up with a broken rear derailleur hanger and was very disappointed about

— Continued on page 7

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, tube(s), 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.

# RIDE SCHEDULE

PDF route slips available at [www.srcc.com](http://www.srcc.com)...go to Calendar of Rides

## THURSDAY • JANUARY 1

### NEW YEAR'S DAY RIDES

2/A/21 • 3/B/51 • 3/C/58  
10:00 AM • Coffey Park

**B:** North on Coffee > L on Dennis > R on Barnes > L on River > R on Laughlin > R on Slusser > L on Mark West Station > R on Trenton-H'burg > L on Eastside > R on Wohler > R on Westside > L on W. Dry Creek > R on Lambert Bridge > R on Dry Creek > L on Lytton Springs > L on Lytton Station > L on Alexander Valley > Hwy 128 (*Regroup at Jimtown Store*) > R on Chalk Hill > L on Faught > L on Old Red > R on Mark West Springs > River > L on Barnes > L on Dennis > L on Coffey to warehouse, etc. **C:** same as B except continue north on W. Dry Creek > R on Yoakim Bridge > R on Dry Creek > L on Canyon > R on Geyserville > L on Hwy 128 > Rejoin B route near Jimtown. **A:** From Mark West Station: R on Starr > R on Windsor River > L on Windsor (*Rest stop at Cafe Noto*) > Return to Windsor River > Under 101 > R on Old Red > L on Pleasant > Rejoin other routes at Faught. *Rides end up at open house at club warehouse. RSVP! Notes: no rest rooms at park; parking limited at warehouse, so park near park and ride to warehouse. See article on page 2 for more info.*

A: Barbara Drucker—538-5256  
B: Rick Sawyer—933-0760  
C: Bill Oetinger—823-9807

## SATURDAY • JANUARY 3

### Geysers in Winter

5/C/58  
9:00 AM • Healdsburg City Hall

L on Grove > L on Healdsburg Ave > R on Alexander Valley > Hwy 128 > L on Pine Flat > L on Red Winery > R on Geysers > River > Crocker > L on Asti > Geyserville > Healdsburg Ave > R on Grove to finish. *When the weather cooperates, there's no better time to explore this wild corner of the county.*

Ken Cabeen—823-2329

## SUNDAY • JANUARY 4

### Cotamalesaluma Continues

3/A/50  
9:00 AM • Cotati Dog Park

R on Myrtle > L on Old Red > R on W Railroad > L on Stony Point > R on Jewett > R on Pepper > R on Bodega > R on Pet-Valley Ford > L on Fallon-Two Rock > Whitaker Bluff > L

on Middle > L on Dillon Beach (*Rest stop at Tomales Bakery*) > South on Hwy 1 > L on Tomales-Petaluma > R on Chileno Valley > R on Western > L on Cleveland > L on Bodega > R on Lohrman > L on Magnolia > R on Thompson > L on Skillman > R on Liberty > L on Center > Jewett > L on Stony Point > R on W RR > L on Old Red > R on Myrtle to Dog Park.

Ken Russeff—953-1804

## SATURDAY • JANUARY 10

### The Nearly Level Century

2-3/BC/101  
8:30 AM • Cotati Dog Park

R on Myrtle > L on Old Red > R on Railroad > L on Stony Point > R on Jewett > R on Pepper > R on Bodega > R on Pet-Valley Ford > Hwy 1 > R on Valley Ford-Freestone > R on Bodega Hwy > L on Bohemian Hwy > L on Moscow (*Rest stop in Duncan Mills*) > R on River > R on Sunset > R on Westside > L on West Dry Creek > R on Lambert Bridge > R on Dry Creek > R on Grove > L on Matheson (*Rest stop in Healdsburg*) > Thru Healdsburg > L on Healdsburg Ave > Old Red > L on Limerick > R on Los Amigos > L on Arata > Hembree (*Rest stop at shopping center*) > R on Shiloh > L on Skylane > Laughlin > Woolsey > L on Wood > R on Fulton > L on Sebastopol Rd > R on Corporate Center > L on North Point > R on Stony Point > L on W. Sierra > R on Valparaiso > Myrtle to park.

Bill Carroll—539-7568

### SRCC-AHSBC Joint Ride

### West County Wandering

4/B/45  
9:00 AM • Analy HS

Bike trail up to and along Hwy 116 > L on Occi > R on Trail to Graton > L on Grey > R on RR > L on Graton > L on Boho > R on Coleman Valley > L on Hwy 1 > L on Bay Hill > L on 1 > L on Bodega > L on Boho > R on Graton > R on RR > L on Grey > R on Trail > L on Occi > R on 116 (bike trail) to Analy. Another opportunity to meet and ride with the members of the new Analy High School Bike Club.

Robert Hall—526-3510

## SUNDAY • JANUARY 11

### Healdsburg Loop

2/ A-B /30  
9:00 AM • Healdsburg City Hall

Ron Vine > R On Westside > (Optional) R on Mill Creek out and back > L on Westside > L on West Dry Creek > R on Yoakum Bridge > R on Dry Creek (*Rest stop at Dry Creek Store*) > L on Lytton Springs > R on Chiquita > R on Grove to parking lot.

Rose—543-5889

## SATURDAY • JANUARY 17

### Get Back In Shape Ride #1

2/ABC/31

9:00 AM • Howarth Park

(Note: this ride does not appear in the hard copy January newsletter.)

L on Summerfield > R on Hoen > R on Hoen (at 2nd light) > L on Farmers Ln > R on Vallejo > L on Olive Hill > L on Gordon > R on Allan > L on Linwood > R on Brookwood > R on Kawana Springs > L on Petaluma Hill > R on RR > R on Poplar > R on Cypress > L on RR > R on Old Redwood Hwy > L on Main (street light) > (*Rest stop at Jaw Amore*) > L on Main > Petaluma Hill > return on same route

A: Carole Kolnes—838-3988

(+ Barbara Drucker)

BC: Steve Drucker—538-5256

## SUNDAY • JANUARY 18

### Valley of the Moon

4/B/35

10:00 AM • Howarth Park

Thru Howarth and Spring Lake Parks to Channel Dr > Wild Oak path > L on White Oak > R on Oakmont > L on Valley Oaks > R on Pythian > R on Hwy 12 > R on Lawndale > R on Schultz > Lawndale > R on Warm Springs > L on Henno > R on Dunbar > Hwy 12 > Rat Sonoma Valley Reg. Park > Path thru park > R on Arnold (*Rest stop at Glen Ellen Mkt*) > R on Arnold > L on Warm Springs > L on Sonoma Mtn (or detour on Enterprise, if closed) > L on Bennett Valley > R on Bethards > L on Summerfield to Howarth Park.

Wayne Kellam—523-1878

### Just Out and About

2/A/30

9:00 AM • Youth Community Park

L on Fulton > L on Piner > L on Olivet > R on Guerneville > R on Laguna > Trenton-H'burg > R on Eastside > R on Windsor River (*Rest stop at Copperstone coffee shop*) > L on Windsor River > L on Windsor > L on Slusser > L on River > R on Woolsey > L on Oakwild > L on W. Olivet > R on Olivet > L on Piner > R on Fulton to park.

Rose—543-5889

## SATURDAY • JANUARY 24

### Bohemian Fifty

3/BC/50

9:30 AM • West County Revolution  
6731 Sebastopol Ave, Sebastopol

North on Morris > R on Bike Path to Analy HS > R on High School > R on Occidental > L on Sanford > R on Hall > L on Willowside > L on Guerneville > L on Frei > Graton > R on Sullivan > L on Green Valley (*Regroup*) > L on Hwy 116 > L on Mays Canyon > L on 116 > L on River > R on Armstrong Woods (*Rest stop at Coffee Bazaar*) > Return to R on River > L on Bohemian Hwy (*Rest stop at Wildflower Bakery*) > L on Bodega > R on Barnett Valley > R on Kennedy > L + R on Bloomfield > R on Lone Pine > L on Fredricks > R on Old Gravenstein > L on Todd > L on Llano > L on Joe Rodota Trail > R to West County Revolution. *The bike shop will be open before the ride start.*

Rick Sawyer—933-0760

## SUNDAY • JANUARY 25

### Fabulous Fifty

2/AB/50

9:00 AM • Esposti Park

L on Shiloh > L on Faught > Pleasant > R on Chalk Hill > L on Hwy 128 > R on Pine Flat > L on Red Winery > L on Geysers > L on Hwy 128 (Rest stop at Jimtown Store) > R on Hwy 128 > Alexander Valley > R on Lytton Station > R on Lytton Springs > R on Geyserville > L on Canyon > L on Dry Creek (Rest stop at Dry Creek Deli) > Lambert Bridge > L on W. Dry Creek > L on Westside > Mill > R on Healdsburg Ave > Old Red > R on Eastside > L on Windsor River > R on Windsor > L on Shiloh to Esposti Park.

Robin Abramson—569-0620

## SATURDAY • JANUARY 31

### January Jaunt

2/A/26

9:30 AM • SR City Hall lot

Prince Greenway > SR Creek Bike Trail > South on Fulton > R on Hall > L on Sanford > R on Occidental > L on High School > R on East Hurlbut > Bike Trail > Mill Station > L on Cherry Ridge > R on Occidental > R on 116 (*Rest stop at Andy's*) > Retrace on 116 > R on Occi > L on Sanford > R on Hall > L on Fulton > R on SR Creek Trail.

Ken Russeff—953-1804

### To the Moon and Beyond

5/C/60 • 5/B/48

9:00 AM • Cotati Vets

Thru Cotati > R on E. Cotati Blvd > R on Pet Hill > L on Roberts > Pressley > R on Sonoma Mtn > R on Warm Springs > R on Arnold > L

on Agua Caliente > L on Lake > Las Flores > R on Estrella > R on El Portola > Moon Mtn to end of left fork > Retrace to R on 12 > R on Cavedale > R on Trinity > Dry Creek > L on Wall to end > Retrace to R on Dry Creek > Trinity > R on Dunbar > L on Henno > R on Warm Springs > L on Son Mtn > L on Pressley > Roberts > R on Pet Hill > L on E. Cotati > R on Old Red, etc. *Broute: skip Moon Mtn & Dry Creek/Wall out-&-backs.*

C: Tony Lee—766-9803

B: Dave Batt—546-5301

## REGULAR RIDES

### Wednesday Wanna-B's

B or C • 30-50 miles • 9:00 AM

*First Wednesday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa*

B: Beth Anderson—874-3685

Vin Hoagland—584-8607

*Second Wednesday: Healdsburg City Hall*

C: Eric Peterson—433-7737

*Third Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol*

C: Jeff Burton—217-2756

*Fourth Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol*

B: Alfred Masey—546-0898

C: Johann Heinzl—539-7991

*Fifth Wednesday: Howarth Park, SR*

B: Bob Briner—799-7146

### Friendly Fridays

B or C • 30-50 • 9:00 AM

*First Friday: Cotati Dog Park*

B: Greg Stone—527-6116

*Second Friday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa*

B: Martin Clinton—569-0126

*Third Friday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol*

B: Doug Newberg—579-0925

*Fourth Friday: City Hall lot, H'burg*

B: Buck Hall—537-1946

C: Warren Watkins—433-4403

*Fifth Friday (B group only): Esposti Park*

B: Gary Grayson—538-9262

2-3/A/25-30 • 9:00 AM

Same schedule as other Friday rides

Janice Eunice—575-9439

*Fourth Friday: George Gallegos—544-3178*

& Carole Kolnes—838-3988

### Flat Fixing Clinic

*First Thursday of each month*

6:30 pm. No cost • Call to sign up:

NorCal Bike Sport—573-0112

## FOR SALE

### DT Swiss Rims, new & used

1450's (1450 grams a set) • 28 spokes, bladed, front, rear • Radial front, 2x rear Used • Retail: \$750 a set; asking \$275

340's (1685 grams a set)

28 front, 32 rear

New • Retail: \$600; asking \$400

Wes—545-3240

## Awards — *Continued from page 1*

“inspirational”? We may not be able to define it, but we know it when we see it. 2008’s winners were Bill Ellis and Robin Abramson. Bill did several doubles (in this, his 50th year), including a valiant attempt at the Horrible Four (twice around the Terrible Two). He did not complete that task, but he made up for it by completing the ultra-tough Furnace Creek 508 in October. Robin inspired us with her cheerful, plucky performance on the Plumas-Lassen-Shasta Tour and on the SF-to-LA AIDS ride.

The King and Queen of the Mountain awards should be self-explanatory. Anyone who’s been on a club ride or watched the Tour de France on TV knows how important it is to climb well. The top mountain goats for 2008 were Tony Lee—2007’s Rider of the Year—and Janice Oakley, who vaulted onto the stage to accept her award as if she were taking out another hill prime.

The Comeback Kid of the Year award goes to someone who has bounced back from the adversity of a bad crash or other medical trauma to once again ride as well or better than before. We are happy to report that almost no one fit these criteria in 2008, at least no one we know about. Except for one: Vicky McKay had crashed rather badly earlier in the year but recovered and got back on the bronc that bucked her off, and for this resilience, she took home the prize, even though she would rather not have qualified for it in the first place (by crashing).

Our Leader of the Pack award goes to members who have worked long and hard in the field of cycling advocacy: lobbying for bikers’ rights and for infrastructure improvements, etc. For 2008, we had an Honorable Mention for Gary Wysocky, recently elected to the Santa Rosa City Council. The two winners for 2008 were Bernie Album, who is currently serving on the Sonoma County Bicycle Advisory Committee, and Susan Gorin, who is currently the Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa. (The fact that we have half a dozen club members on the Advisory Committee and now two members on the SR City Council shows that our club continues to play a central role in the efforts to make cycling a mainstream transit option locally. Thanks to all members who carry the load in one way or another in this worthy endeavor.)

The Good Shepherd award goes to a particular club ride leader who has shown an especially sympathetic and supportive nature with regard to those who show up to do their rides. This year Tom Helm is a very worthy winner. A club member longer than almost anyone else still active in the club, with a great deal of cycling experience, he has taken it upon himself to share some of that accumulated knowledge by staging instructional clinics in pace line technique and general bike handling skills. His patience and talent as a mentor make these sessions a real treat and of great value for those who attend.

The engine that drives a bike club is powered by volunteer energy, and what makes the Santa Rosa Cycling Club such a vibrant, viable club is its many energetic volunteers. One of the most prestigious awards we present each year is our Volunteer of the Year award, which recognizes the extraordinary efforts of one male and one female club member for their tireless work in the trenches. This year the recipients were Gordon Stewart and Arlene Morgan, who have both logged endless hours—in both leadership roles and behind the scenes—doing myriad tasks to keep the club humming along. This award is a small token of our appreciation for all they have done and continue to do.

The Lewis and Clark award is presented to a club member who has completed a substantial, self-supported cycle-tour in the past year. The club searched high and low for a worthy recipient for the award for 2008, but came up empty. There was some sentiment to give the award to Sky George, who soloed from Sonoma County to Georgia, but then it was discovered that Sky, although a frequent participant in club rides, has never been a club member. Bert Daniel and Phil Grinton—both past winners of the award—did self-supported tours in 2008, but both declined the award on the grounds that their tours were too short....not substantial enough. So in the end, we are still looking for someone to receive this award for 2008. Is it possible we missed a likely candidate? If you or some other club member you know fills the bill on this one, let us know. We can still bestow the award and make note of it in some future newsletter. Don’t be shy about this: we want to honor a worthy cycle-tourist, and in stepping forward, you will offer your example as inspiration for others to follow in your wheel tracks.

For all that we talk about the unselfish volunteerism of our members, we must also acknowledge that the pastime of cycling can be quite selfish, or, more accurately, can consume great quantities of our time and energy, sometimes at the cost of domestic tranquility if our spouses do not fully understand or support our passion. Because we understand this issue, we appreciate spouses who do appreciate and support what we do, and we have an award for them: the Golden Shoe. The winner for 2008 is Michelle Bellefeuille, wife of Craig Gaevert. In addition to being a strong stoker on their tandem and an all-around best friend for Craig, she won our votes this year by supporting Craig in his decision to remain the President of the club for one more year. Thanks, Michelle!

The Rider of the Year award goes to one man and one woman who have stayed at or near the sharp end of the peloton all year long; who have shown themselves to be serious about making their bikes go fast. They are the Big Dawgs of the local bike scene. This year’s winners were Doug McKenzie and Susan Noble. In addition to competing in many races, Doug decided this year to try his luck in the California Triple Crown Stage Race, which takes the elapsed times from the three hardest double centuries in the west and adds them together for a cumulative total, as in a real stage race. In this, his first attempt at that daunting challenge, he claimed a podium step: third overall. Susan did not do any one thing that caught the spotlight in the way Doug’s efforts did. She was simply on the bike, riding hard, hammer down, all the time. People noticed. We noticed. Good job, both of you.

Finally, we arrive at the famous, infamous Gearhead Award, our ultimate prize, presented to someone who has “demonstrated cycling intensity and prowess above and beyond that which an average cyclist will tolerate.” There was some sentiment to give the award to Bill Ellis, after his accomplishments noted above. But Bill is a past winner of the award, and we have yet to consider doing repeat winners. In the end, we settled on Scott McEldowney, who is well-known to the hardcore hammers in the club but less familiar to the general membership. Scott did the doubles circuit in 2008. He completed six of them, all of which collectively add up to the hardest six doubles out there, including the Stage Race events, where his times were good enough for 7th overall. But in addition to his stellar work in doubles, the thing that may have landed Scott this award was his habit of “commuting” to club rides from his home in Windsor, regardless of how long the rides were or how far from home. This turned 100-K rides into centuries and



centuries into 160-mile grinders. Scott just took it all in stride in his quiet, unassuming way. We are sorry to report that we will not be seeing Scott on club rides in the future. Even he would balk at riding to club rides from two states away. Like our Gearhead Award winner from two years ago, Marc Moons, Scott has recently left the area for a job elsewhere. In fact, he was already gone on the night of the dinner, so John Russell, the outgoing holder of the Gearhead, made a presentation in Scott's honor.

So there you go: a delightful dinner with good company and good food and drink; an enjoyable evening of awards and chat, all brought together in the best holiday spirit: a gathering of family, of like-minded, bike-minded friends. If you were there, we're pretty sure you had a good time; if you were not, we wish you could have been.

— Continued from page 2

## *More* BACKROADS & BREAKAWAYS

not riding. The weather was foggy and cold. The group stayed together through Llano and then broke up, where I drifted to the back. Out where Roblar meets Petaluma-Valley Ford, there was a general regroupment, where the clouds broke and the air seemed warmer. I never saw the front again after that. Some riders had appointments and had to get back. I waited for the last rider at the top of Bloomfield, which seemed to be the point where we reentered the cold. Students all agreed that they need to purchase cold weather gear for riding. This was my first official ride back from the separated AC joint of my left shoulder, and it went well... no pain!" Robert doesn't mention it, but I know he gave away all of his cold-weather clothing to the frozen high school kids. What a neat thing this is to have the kids getting excited about riding. Hats off to Robert for giving them some encouragement and guidance. He has two more AHSBC-SRCC rides on the calendar: one in late December and one in January. Come out and welcome the kids to the wonderful world of cycling.

There were two rides on December 7 and they catered to vastly different segments of the club. (And isn't it nice that the same club can incorporate both of these extremes?) Tony Lee offered a tough CD ride out of Petaluma: "Ten riders showed up for Sunday's Tour de Limantour, braving cold weather and a club ride with a pace marked with the scary 'D' word. Little did they know though that their ride leader was just coming off five days of stomach flu, so they had little to worry about. A dense fog covered the roads for the first half-hour of riding. By Wilson Hill it had lifted to a high cloud cover with slightly warmer temperatures. We had just started on the Marshall Road when a strong team of riders from Whole Athlete passed. Opportunity! We grabbed on for a swift and a true-to-the-letter D pace to the base of Marshall Wall. Afterwards the ten of us regrouped and went down the coast to Pt. Reyes Station for a coffee and morning bun. Then on to face Chief Balboa, that little-known, steep back road up to the top of Limantour. Continuing west, grey skies gave way to patches of blue and by the coast we had a beautiful 'Simpsons Sky' (as Hunt put it). For the return trip, we all hung together, shared pulls, and eagerly counted down the remaining climbs back to Petaluma for some homemade limonade. Total stats: 65 miles and a little under 6000' of climbing." Tony fails to mention that in addition to the wicked climb on Balboa, there is a matching wall on Limantour Road on the way back in from the coast, out by the youth hostel. That ride is a certified ass-kicker, especially in December.

For contrast we have Carole Kolnes AB ride out of Esposti Park: "Thirty 'polar bear' cyclists came out Sunday morning and braved the very chilling December day. Nothing like the proverbial carrot of hot chocolate or java to drive them toward their goal of the warm coffee shop in Windsor. Each rider was given a little bag of chocolate and a ticket for their complimentary drink. At 9:15, all riders took off except for me, John, and Barbara, as we were calling the coffee shop to give them a heads-up for the number of riders to expect. As we swept the route, we ran across only one flat tire that was quickly taken care of. The fog was thick and the chill of the day went right to the bone. It was 35° on top of Chalk Hill! As we passed Jimtown, all riders were in good spirits and trucking along at a speedy pace, no doubt trying to keep warm! For a brief moment it looked like the possibility of sun, but that was never to materialize. The day seemed to get colder as each hour passed. With sweeping the route and making sure all riders were taken care of, we arrived at the coffee shop as many people were either gone or leaving. However, much to our delight, people clapped as we entered the coffee shop, expressing their appreciation for the ride and the refreshments. Everyone seemed quite pleased with the ride, in spite of such cold weather. The owner of the coffee shop told us how polite and courteous all the riders were and welcomed them back with open arms. What a nice tribute to our Santa Rosa Cycling Club! An annual event, you ask? Well, let me defrost first and then we will talk! Thanks again riders; you made it a great ride!"

The last ride we will cover this month was on the following Saturday, December 13. It was another of Tony Buffa's short but intense workouts in the west county hills. This one was only 40 miles, but packed a lot into the modest distance. Up and down, early and often. There were a couple of things I especially liked about this ride. Tony took a bunch of our familiar, favorite roads and strung them together in some new and different combinations. We would get to a certain corner where we normally expect to turn left and we'd turn right. It kept things fresh and kept the riders awake. The other nice thing was that he intentionally planned a route that got us out onto the open hillsides to the south and west, where the tree cover gives way to dairylands. In case it isn't obvious, this avoids the cold, dank, shaded pocket canyons we know so well and gives us a fighting chance at finding whatever weak winter sun might be out there. And there was in fact some sun to be seen, providing a modest measure of warmth. Not that anyone was stowing away their arm warmers or vests or long-fingered gloves though. It wasn't that warm! The other nice thing about this ride was the crowd that showed up: I think around 20 riders, and a very congenial bunch it turned out to be. There was the usual sorting out of riders over the many little ups and downs, but the quickest riders always waited for the slower ones in the best, off-season, sociable way. It was about as nice as one could reasonably expect a ride to be in mid-December (when much of the rest of the country is grappling with snow and ice).

Emphasising how fortunate we were to get in the ride on Saturday, the weather gods finally came to call on Sunday, raining out Wayne Kellam's Valley of the Moon B ride. Wayne made a valiant effort in the face of a dire weather forecast. He set out to meet the troops in an icy fog, but before reaching the ride start, it began to rain, and that sealed the deal for Wayne's rainy ride. He has the same ride back on the list for January, and we shall see whether the weather cuts him a break the second time around.

**SANTA ROSA CYCLING CLUB**  
**PO Box 6008**  
**Santa Rosa, CA 95406**

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



Member: LAB • CBC • CABO • REBAC • SCTC • SCBC

- President: Craig Gaevart .....545-4133
- Vice-President: Greg Durbin .....528-4450
- Secretary: Donn King .....823-5461
- Treasurer: Donna Emery .....546-6359
- Officers at Large
- Martha Barton .....538-9315
- John Miklaucic.....545-3470
- Joe Morgan.....778-8209
- Gordon Stewart .....823-0941
- Martin Clinton .....569-0126
- Newsletter editor, ride director: Bill Oetinger.....823-9807
- Webmaster: Gordon Stewart .....823-0941
- Club apparel sales: Sharron Bates.....526-3512
- Membership registration: Gordon Stewart.....823-0941
- Meeting program coordinator: JoAnne Cohn.....566-9169

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

[srccride@sonic.net](mailto:srccride@sonic.net) (Bill Oetinger, e-wrangler)

To join the club or renew membership, please go to  
[www.srcc.com](http://www.srcc.com)



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.

## 2009 WINE COUNTRY CENTURY

The time has arrived to start preparing for the 2009 Wine Country Century. This is our main event: the major fund raiser of the year for the Santa Rosa Cycling Club. We had 2500 riders and 300+ volunteers last year. The 2008 WCC was a huge financial success.

I have been making reservations and have begun communicating with chairs from the 2008 WCC. I will be calling people to fill chair positions and recruiting new co-chairs to learn from some of the old pros. I have several new ideas to make WCC even better, if that is possible. Last year's innovations included the new warehouse, a water truck at Wohler Bridge, and CHP officers to help with traffic control. There was registration under the tent at the Wells Fargo Center and a new, user-friendly, on-line entry form designed by Gordon Stewart. If you have suggestions for improving the event this year, call or e-mail me. We're always willing to consider new ideas.

Put May 2, 2009 on your calendar for the WCC, and look for the full roster of committees and committee chairs in next month's newsletter. The workers' ride will be on May 9, 2009. Let's make this year's WCC even better than it has been in past years.

*Joe Morgan, WCC Chair, 2009*

778-8209 or [comotandem@hotmail.com](mailto:comotandem@hotmail.com)

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, January 14 • 6:30 PM

Round Table Pizza

(Occidental Road, west of Stony Point)

*Annual elections and assorted year-end awards*

Wednesday, February 11

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Open to all interested members)

Thursday, January 8 • 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, February 5