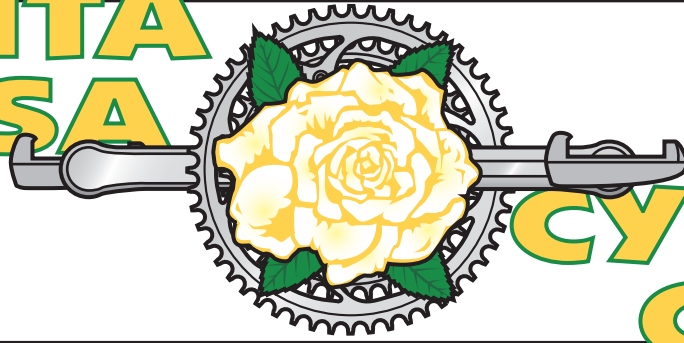


# SANTA ROSA



ADOPT-A-BACKROAD  
LITTER PICK-UP DAY  
NOVEMBER 7  
SEE PAGE 8

# CYCLING CLUB

## NOVEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

### ***SRCC and Levi's Gran Fondo***

On Saturday morning, October 9, a wide river of cyclists flowed out of Finley Park in Santa Rosa, led by Levi Leipheimer and headed for the west county hills. This was year two of Levi's King Ridge Gran Fondo. After a successful first edition last year, with approximately 3500 participants, Levi and his team of organizers upped the ante to 6000 cyclists. This is by far the largest group of bike riders to ever roll down the roads of Sonoma County *en masse*. After Levi and his fellow celebrity racers had set off at the front of the field, it took close to half an hour for riders near the back of the massive pack to even cross the official start line.

To say this was a big event would be a huge understatement. It was bigger than big. The logistical challenges associated with such a large undertaking are staggering to contemplate. If you were anywhere around the event, you will have been impressed by how well organized it was, and by how few glitches there were. Much of the credit for that goes to event organizers Carlos Perez and Greg Fisher of Bike Monkey and VeloStreet. But a very big tip of the hat must also go to the Santa Rosa Cycling Club. While this is not one of our own events, our experienced volunteers were intimately and extensively involved in its production. In particular, we hosted the marquee rest stop at the top of King Ridge, with over 40 volunteers on hand to see that the stop was run according to our best SRCC standards. (Steve Drucker and Janice Oakley were in charge at the stop.) Many more members were involved at other sites around the course or behind the scenes. Doug Simon and Craig Gaevret were both key figures in the management of the event.

Dozens of other club members were rolling down the roads in the midst of the massive throng. Some had paid their entry fees and were simply enjoying the challenging ride, while others had volunteered as Course Marshals. If you were fast enough, you might have had the thrill of riding alongside (or drafting behind) some of the many pros at the head of the field: Levi Leipheimer, Fast Freddie Rodriguez, Ben King, Taylor Phinney, Gavin Chilcott, Odessa Gunn, etc. Even if your tempo was not up to pro pace, you would have found yourself swimming in that big river of riders, mixing it up with other participants from any of 45 different US states or several foreign countries.

Whatever your involvement with the big day, you will have come away from it convinced that you had been a part of something really extraordinary. Many thanks to all in the SRCC family who helped to make the Gran Fondo a grand experience and a spectacular showcase of cycling in Sonoma County.

### *2010 Holiday Dinner and Awards Presentation*

On the evening of Friday, December 3, Santa Rosa Cycling Club members will don their best dress-up duds and converge on the grand old Flamingo Resort Hotel for an evening of gourmet dining and congenial socializing. The occasion is our annual Holiday Dinner Party, which, in addition to offering good food and good company, will also include the presentation of our Annual Awards, honoring great deeds done over the course of the past cycling season.

This year, the club is returning to a format from the earlier years of our holiday parties. Gone is the folksy, funky ambience of the Druids Hall. Instead, we're staging the event at the upscale Flamingo Resort, echoing the first few editions of these holiday soirées, which were held in venues such as Chez Peyo, Hotel la Rose, and Mistral.

Rather than having a minimalist buffet supper, supplemented with homemade pot luck fare—and with lots of volunteer help—now everything will be provided by the hotel, including table (rather than buffet) service. After dinner and the awards, members can burn off a few calories on the dance floor next door to our banquet hall, where a DJ will be spinning out the tunes. For those who don't want to drive anywhere after an evening of revelry, the hotel is offering rooms at a very reasonable rate. There will be a no-host bar and a corkage fee for wine brought to the dinner.

Not surprisingly, the more upscale package at the Flamingo comes with a higher price tag than the evenings at the Druids Hall. In light of the added expense, we are reinstating our practice of charging a fee for the dinner (as we used to do when we held the event in better restaurants in the past). Cost will be \$20 per person. However, even with this admission fee, the club is still underwriting the lion's share of the cost for the evening.

(We should note that this return to a more upscale format is a one-year-at-a-time experiment. Some people may prefer the more informal approach of recent years. Our collective jury is still out as to which package is the best fit for most of us. For various reasons, it's unlikely we will be using the Druids Hall again, but other, similar halls exist where we could stage the event in a manner similar to recent years. This year, the Board considered

*Continued on page 7*

## MINUTE MIX

Highlights from the General Membership and Executive Board meetings for October

- 1. Call to Order:** President Donn King called the general meeting to order at the Round Table on Occidental Road on Wednesday, October 13. 56 members and friends were present.
- 2. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Greg Durbin reported on the club's bank account balances, as of September 30.
- 3. Membership:** Registrar Gordon Stewart reported membership of 1202 (combining individual and family memberships). This is a drop of 165 members since last month, but that drop merely reflects a revised method, instituted this month, for deleting lapsed memberships from the roster. Don Graham acted as host at the New Member Table, with eight new members on hand.
- 4. Grizzly:** Kimberly Hoffman reported on the recent Grizzly Century weekend. (*See item in B&B.*)
- 5. Club rides:** Ride Director Bill Oetinger and Webmaster Gordon Stewart are considering ways to revise and improve the website guidelines on how to lead club rides.
- 6. Gran Fondo:** Steve Drucker recapped the proceedings at the SRCC rest stop on the Gran Fondo. Other members added their own impressions from the event. (*See items on pages 1 and 7.*)
- 7. Holiday dinner:** Donn King reported to the members on the details of the holiday dinner, set for December 3 at the Flamingo Hotel. (*See article on page 1 and details on this page.*)
- 8. Team Swift:** The Board approved a contribution of \$200 to pay for rest stop food at the Team Swift Cycle With Champions fund-raising ride on November 7.
- 9. Elections:** Donn King noted that elections for Board officers will be coming up in January and spoke about the need for members to take on leadership roles in the club. The Board has been actively pursuing contacts with several members interested in becoming involved.
- 10. Warehouse:** The Board has directed Craig Gaevert to look into insurance policies to cover the contents of the warehouse and also liability coverage at the facility. The Board voted to purchase all of the bike racks recently constructed by SRCC members for the Gran Fondo. (We can use them at the WCC.)
- 11. Key events:** Richard Anderson continues to work on a spreadsheet with major club events that require advance planning and coordination, including dates, Chairs, Board contacts, and mentors. 2010 and 2011 versions will be finalized and posted in the Board section of the website. If this program is deemed successful, there may be other uses for this document in the future.
- 12. TT jersey:** Bill Oetinger advised the Board that he has initiated a production schedule with Voler Team Apparel for the next generation Terrible Two jersey.
- 13. Awards:** Bill Oetinger explained the End-of-Year Awards and encouraged members to submit nominations.
- 14. Board retreat:** Rather than a "retreat," the Board decided instead to have an additional special meeting of around two hours, mainly to review the proposed 2011 club budget. This will take place at President Donn King's home in Santa Rosa, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on Saturday, November 13.

## Holiday Dinner Party

• ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTATION •

Friday • December 3

Flamingo Resort Hotel

2777 Fourth Street • Santa Rosa

Reception & no-host bar: 5:30 pm

Dinner: 6:30 pm (table service)

Awards throughout the evening

### • MENU •

Hors d'oeuvres

Flamingo Winter Salad *or* Holiday Caesar Salad

*Entrée (choose one on registration form):*

Certified angus prime rib

Pink salmon

Penne vegetarian pasta

*(Vegan options on request)*

Ruby red potatoes

Fresh, seasonal winter vegetables

Sourdough rolls

*Dessert:*

Pumpkin cheesecake *or*

Black forest cake *or*

Amaretto mousse cake

Coffee and Tea

*Wines available from the Flamingo wine list • \$12 corkage*

Cost: \$20 per person

*Attendance is restricted to members and their partners*

Registration for the Holiday Dinner Party is on-line in the [calendar](#) section of the club website

Payment is by credit card or PayPal.

Registration closes at end of day, Monday, November 22

For those who do not wish to drive after the party, special room rates are available at the hotel, starting at \$79. Optional: in the spirit of the season, the club will be collecting toys (unwrapped) to be donated to needy children.

---

**15. Featured presentation:** An update from Scott Bowen about the progress of the Sonoma Velo Project. Sites have been selected and additional donations are sought to keep this project moving forward. Scott thanked the club for its past donation, and mentioned that the Gran Fondo is also supporting this project.

*JoAnne Cohn, our current Feature Presentation coordinator, is resigning that position at the end of the year. We are looking for another member to take that on.*

## 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: srccride@sonic.net.*

You don't need me to tell you we've had a lot of hot days in the past month. Records have been set on several of those days. But that was back at the tail end of September and the first weeks of October. By the time we get to the end of this reporting period, things will have cooled down considerably. October is really our month of transition around here. But before we get to the cool stuff, we have to go back to the last weekend in September and revisit the hot stuff.

John Olson had listed a fat century (113 miles) down the coast and into Marin County as far south as Mill Valley. At least it must have been a little cooler on the coastal side of the mountains. John reports: "Fifteen riders started and eight bailed, some at Tomales and two or three more at Point Reyes Station. The average was 20 mph at Point Reyes. We noted new pavement all along Hwy 1 to PRS and no wind. From PRS, seven riders continued along Bolinas Lagoon and regrouped in Mill Valley. Next stop was Fairfax, where we had lunch and re-energized. We promptly used that energy for a hard pull into Nicasio at 30 mph and then stopped at the Cheese Factory for one last rest stop before continuing into Petaluma, then the last pull through the headwind into Cotati. All seven riders finished together and we were all glad that there wasn't another mile left to ride."

I can tell you that most of the riders who bailed did so because they were coming to a party at my house beginning in the late afternoon. It was the wrap-up party for all the folks who had participated in either of the two club tours of 2010 (the Mother Lode Tour or the Alpine Road Trip). I have no doubt they could have and would have finished the whole ride otherwise, but the lure of free beer and barbecue is hard to ignore.

On the Sunday of this hot weekend, Jack Hartnett listed an AB ride around the vineyards: "A good ride with about 20 riders out of Healdsburg City Hall on a very warm day and with a very strong B+ pace at the start. I got dropped three miles into the ride, but I hooked up with Alan & Sue and we did the more normal pace for AB riders. There were several new people that I hadn't ridden with before. Stopped at Jimtown for snacks after Dutcher Creek. No incidents that I know of, other than one flat. The temperature was near 100° in Healdsburg when we got back to the cars."

If you have a good memory, you might recall that this same weekend last year offered up record-breaking heat as well (for instance Darrin Jenkins' Cavedale ride on September 26, where it hit 105°, which I believe was the hottest day of 2009).

This was also the weekend of the Knoxville Double Century, out in Napa, Lake, and Solano Counties, and if it was hot here, it must have been hotter still out there. I haven't heard too much about it—no reports on the chat list—so all I can tell you is what I read in their results list. They only list the finishers in alpha order—no times or placings—so I can just relay that these folks managed to survive what must have been a bake-oven day: Mike Aberg, Richard Burger, Ken Cabeen, Michael Leach, and Craig Robertson.

Speaking of brutal, Rick Sawyer opened up the schedule for October with a nasty little ride: Skagg Springs Road, from the

Warm Springs Dam Visitor Center out to Stewarts Point...and back. Sounds simple enough. But hoo boy, what a monster that one road can be, especially in a double dose like that. It was listed at 75 miles and 10,400' of gain, and that's exactly what we got. There were ten riders at the start. One turned back early after two flats, and another got a sag ride in from Stewarts Point after suffering a mechanical. (Yes, we did have a sag. Thanks to Len Allair for giving up his day to keep an eye on us.) The other eight riders finished, in various stages of exhaustion. Over 10,000' of gain in 75 miles may seem bad enough, but it's the way in which those many feet are gained that really tells the tale: steeply. Very steeply in some cases. I've done all or part of Skaggs many times, in one direction or the other. But I can't recall ever doing the whole thing as a complete out-&-back before. I have to think it's one of the toughest rides one could take on for that distance. Absolutely killer, especially those later climbs. How mind-messing they are! The only saving grace was that this day was several degrees cooler than most of the days before or after it. A thin film of cloud kept temps between the mid-70's and mid-80's. Had it been as hot as it was the previous weekend, that sag wagon might have been packed full on the return trip.

Mike and Janice Eunice had another of their Welcome Wagon rides on Sunday. Janice sent in this note about it: "The weather was cloudy in Windsor, but eight cyclists, including Mike and I, rode 10.5 miles in the Windsor plains. This was a bit of a challenge to many of the riders, especially Starr Road, Eastside, and Windsor River Road, which have some rollers. We stopped at Starbucks after the ride and, all in all, it was good ride with wonderful new, and interesting cyclists." I love how the folks Janice meets on her entry-level rides are always wonderful and interesting. They are that way (to her) because *she* is that way!

Also on this day, Rose Mello had another AB run from Cotati out to stickybun heaven in Freestone via a hilly route out along Whittaker Bluff and Franklin School. She says there were 20 people at the start and that they enjoyed the slightly cooler weather that some of the rest of us were grateful for up on Skaggs. A bit of a headwind outward bound, but a sweet tailwind coming home. And major league stickybuns in the middle. That'll work.

If Rick's little Skaggs ride wasn't hard enough for you, you could have headed down to the Furnace Creek 508, which was playing out in the barren wastes of Southern California on this same weekend. In addition to some club members who were crewing here and there, we had two clubsters actually in the saddle, grinding out the 500-plus miles. John Witkowicki was part of a two-man relay team, and they finished 4th out of all the relay teams and 2nd in the 50+ age group. The plucky Susan Forsman finished second among the women, in the process setting the course record for a woman on a fixie. Yes, that's right: she did that big bastard of a ride on a one-speed bike (same as she did our super-hilly Mother Lode Tour back in May). Now she and her hubbie Barley own both the men's and women's fixie records at 508. These are some seriously tough cookies we've got in this club!

Or if 508 was a little bit *too* much, you could still have done a biggish ride and a weekend away from home by taking part in our annual trek to the Grizzly Century, down near Bass Lake in the Sierra. Kimberly Hoffman was once again in charge of organizing our club's involvement with the event. We have heard from some of the folks who were there—we think there were about 20

— 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 30-60 minutes; waits for all riders. 23-26 minutes\*

C: brisk pace; pacelines likely; regroupings every 45-90 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.

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

## SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 6

### Wine Country North 3/D/46

9:00 AM • Healdsburg City Hall

Grove > R on Mill > Westside > R on W Dry Creek > R on Yoakim Bridge > L on Dry Creek > R on Dutcher Creek > Cloverdale Blvd (*regroup in Cloverdale*) > R on E 1st > R on Asti > Geyserville > Hwy 128 > L on Geysers > R on Red Winery > R on Pine Flat > R (straight) on Hwy 128 > L (straight) on Alexander Valley > R on Lytton Station > R on Lytton Springs > L on Chiquita > R on Grove to City Hall. *Lunch afterwards in H'burg.*

Bill Ellis—415-898-2998

### Sonoma Mtn-Adobe Canyon 4/BC/45

9:00 AM • Howarth Park

Sonoma Ave > L on Brookwood > R on Kawana Springs > L on Petaluma Hill > L on Roberts > Pressley > R on Sonoma Mountain > R on Warm Springs > R on Arnold (*rest stop at the market*) > Retrace to L on Warm Springs > L on Hwy 12 > R on Adobe Canyon to top (*regroup at Sugar Loaf SP*) > Retrace Adobe Canyon > R on Hwy 12 > L on Pythian > R on Oakmont > L on White Oak > R on bike path to Channel > Thru parks to finish.

Christine Logan—577-1422

## SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 7

### Litter Pick-up Day

9:00 AM • San Miguel School

Time for our semi-annual litter pick-up project. This time we're tackling the approximately ten miles of scenic Chalk Hill Road. We need about 40 workers to cover the road (typically in teams of two). After all the work is done, we will retire to a local bistro for lunch, with the tab picked up by the club. Whoever thought picking up litter could be so much fun? Ride to the start and home again after lunch.

Mike McGuire—542-6687

### SRCC Welcome Wagon Ride 1/A/10-15

10:00 AM • Joe Rodota Trailhead  
(west of Wright Road)

An introductory ride for novice cyclists (but veteran riders are welcome too). Easy, social pace. Plenty of opportunities for learning bike skills with supportive, experienced

mentors. Instruction in working on bikes on request.

Mike & Janice Eunice—575-9439

## SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 13

### Pope Silverado's Fall Colors 3/B/45

9:00 AM • Silverado Brewing Co.  
3020 N. St. Helena Hwy (Hwy 29)

R on Hwy 29 > R on Bale > R on Silverado Trail > L on Crystal Springs > R on Sanitarium > R on Deer Park > L on Silverado > L on Sage Canyon (Hwy 128) > L on Chiles & Pope Valley > Pope Valley (*rest stop at store*) > L on Ink Grade > R on White Cottage > R (straight ahead) on Howell Mtn > R on Silverado > L on Lodi > R on Hwy 29 to Brewery (for lunch and brews).

Rick Sawyer—933-0760

### In & Out and Out & About 2/A/55+

9:00 AM • Esposti Park

R on Old Red > R on Bailhache > L around Academy > R on Bailhache > R on Old Red > Thru Healdsburg > L on Mill > L on Kinley (Magnolia Loop) > Kinley > L on Dry Creek > R on Lytton Springs > L on Fredson > R on Independence > R on Geyserville > L on Healdsburg Ave > Lytton Station > L on Alexander Valley > R on West Soda Rock to end > Retrace to R on Alexander Valley > (*rest stop at Jimtown Store*) > R on Alexander Valley > R on Lytton Station > Healdsburg Ave > R on Grove > Thru Healdsburg > Old Red > L on Arata > Hembree > L on Old Red > L on Pleasant > Faught > R on Shiloh to Park.

Carole Kolnes—838-3988  
Barbara Drucker—538-5256

## SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 14

### Leisurely Ride with Little Hills 1-2/AB/36

9:00 AM • Esposti Park

R (west) on Shiloh > R on Hembree > Arata > R on Los Amigos > L on Limerick > R on Old Red > Healdsburg Ave > L on Mill > Westside > R on W Dry Creek > R on Lambert Bridge > R on Dry Creek (*Dry Creek Store rest stop*) > L (south) on Dry Creek > L on Lytton Springs > L on Lytton Station > L on Alexander Valley > Hwy 128 > R on Chalk Hill > L on Pleasant > Faught > R on Shiloh to Esposti Park.

Rose Mello—543-5889

## King Ridge

5/C/55

9:00 AM • Monte Rio

L on River > R on Austin Creek > R on Caz Hwy > King Ridge > L on Hauser Bridge > Seaview > L (straight ahead) on Fort Ross > R (straight) on Meyers Grade > L on Hwy 1 > L on River (Hwy 116) > R on Moscow > L on Main, over bridge to finish. *Lunch after the ride at Fern's Market in MR (homemade pizza and deli sandwiches).*

Sarah Schroer—364-7560

### SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 20

#### Lotsa Hills and Two Rocks

3/BC/46

9:30 AM • Cotati Vets

R on Myrtle > Valparaiso > L on Lund Hill > L on Cypress > R on Railroad > L on Stony Point > R on Jewett > Center > R on Liberty > R on Skillman > Eucalyptus > R on Middle Two Rock > L on Purvine > R on Spring Hill > L on Petaluma-Valley Ford > L on Gericke > R on Fallon-Two Rock > Whitaker Bluff > L on Middle > L on Dillon Beach (*rest stop in Tomales*) > R on Hwy 1 > R on Fallon-Two Rock > L on Carmody > R on Petaluma-Valley Ford > L on Walker > L on Pepper > L on Mecham > L on Stony Point > R on W. Sierra > R on Valparaiso > Myrtle to Vets.

Steve Drucker—538-5256

### SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 21

#### Tomales Bakery Run

2/B/35

10:00 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 > L on Tomales-Petaluma > R on Hwy 1 (*Rest stop at Tomales Bakery*) > L on Hwy 1 > L on Tom-Pet > L on Twin Bridge > R on Fallon-Two Rock > L on Carmody > L on Petaluma-Valley Ford > R on Roblar > L on Stony Point > R on W. Sierra > R on Valparaiso > Myrtle to park.

Ken Russeff—953-1804

### THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 25

#### Thanksgiving Ride Three Ways

Part I: 3/C/43 • 6:50 AM

Part II: 4/C/57 • 9:40 AM

Peet's Coffee @ Mendo & Chanate

**Part I:** L on Chanate > R on Fountaingrove > L on Brush Creek > Wallace > L on Riebli > R on Mark West Springs > L on Franz Valley > R on Spencer > L on Hwy 128 > L on Chalk Hill > L on Pleasant > Faught > L on Old Red > L on Chanate > L to Peet's, end

Part I; **Part II:** R on Chanate/Administration > L on County Center > R on Steele > L on Fulton > R on Hall > L on Sanford > R on Occidental > L on Mill Station > R on Cherry Ridge > L on Occidental > L on Boho > R on Coleman Valley > L (straight) on Joy > R on Bodega > R on Hwy 1 > R on Bay Hill > R on Hwy 1 > R on Coleman Valley > L on Boho > R on Graton > Frei > R on Guerneville > L on Olivet > R on Piner > R on Range > L on Bicentennial > R on Mendocino to Peet's. *Three ways: do the first part, do the second part, or do both parts.*

Karen Thompson—479-1864

### SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 27

#### Twin Hill Holiday

2-AB-30

9:00 AM • SW Community Park

L on Hearn > L on Stony Point > R on Roblar > R on Petaluma Valley Ford > R on Bloomfield > L on Pleasant Hill (*rest stop at Twin Hill Apple Ranch*) > R on Elphick > L on Hwy 116 > R on Joe Rodota Trail > L S. Wright > R Joe Rodota Trail > exit trail R at Brittain Ln > R on Sebastopol Rd > L on Corporate Center Parkway > L on Northpoint > R on Stony Point > L on Hearn to park.

Sue Bennett—523-1322

#### Post-Turkey Calorie Burner

5/C/47-77

9:00 AM • San Miguel School

L on Faught > L on Old Red > L on Mark West Station > Porter Creek > L on Franz Valley > L on Hwy 128 > R on Ida Clayton to top (regroup) > Retrace to R on Hwy 128 > L on Chalk Hill > L on Pleasant > Faught to finish. Optional: continue north on 128 to R on Pine Flat. 22 miles round trip to the "flat." 30 miles round trip to the top.

Firouzeh Attwood—415-515-1167

### SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 28

#### Long Strange Tryptophan

2/A-B/40

9:00 AM • Youth Community Park

L on Fulton > L on Piner > L on Olivet > R on Guerneville > L on Frei > Graton > R on Ross > L on Ross Station > R on Ross Branch > R on West County Regional Trail to Forestville > L on 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 > Windsor > R on Shiloh > R on Skylane > Laughlin > Woolsey > L on Wood > R on Fulton to YC Park.

David Abramo—650-533-2330  
Sunny Mawson—838-3138

#### Northwest Marin

3/B/49

9:00 AM • Cotati Dog Park

R on Myrtle > L on Old Red > R on RR > L on Stony Pt > R on Jewett > R on Pepper > R on Bodega > Pet-Valley Ford > L on Fallon-Two Rock > Whitaker Bluff > L on Middle > L on Dillon Beach (*rest stop at Tomales Bakery*) > L (south) on Hwy 1 > L on Tom-Pet > 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 Pt > R on RR > L on Old Red > R on Myrtle to park.

Donna Norrell—292-0565

### REGULAR RIDES

#### Wednesday Wanna-B's

B • 30-50 miles • 9:00 AM

*First Wednesday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa*  
Beth Anderson—874-3685

Vin Hoagland—584-8607

*Second Wednesday: Healdsburg City Hall*  
Chris Jones—938-2669

*Third Wednesday: Finley Park, Santa Rosa*  
Lowell Antze—237-7014

*Fourth Wednesday: Finley Park, Santa Rosa*  
Alfred Masy—484-5885

*Fifth Wednesday: Esposti Park, Windsor*  
Alfred Masy—484-5885

C • 30-50 miles • 9:00 AM

*First Wednesday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa*

*Second Wednesday: Healdsburg City Hall*  
Eric Peterson—433-7737

*Third Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol*

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

*Fifth Wednesday: Howarth Park, SR*

(All other, leaderless C rides are decide-&-ride)

#### Friendly Fridays

A • 25-30 • 9:00 AM

Same schedule as other Friday rides

Janice Eunice—575-9439

Fifth Friday: Ken Russeff—953-1804

B & 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: Kim Nelson—573-6882

*Fourth Friday: City Hall lot, H'burg*  
B: Buck Hall—537-1946

C: Nabeel Al-Shamma—479-6246

*Fifth Friday (B group only): Esposti Park*  
B: Gary Grayson—538-9262

## More BACKROADS & BREAKAWAYS

club members in attendance—and we know approximately how it all went. Weather was once again a major player at the Griz, as it so often is. The good news is that it was nice, even a bit hot and humid, for almost all of the century ride. Those doing shorter options got the whole ride done dry. But late in the afternoon, a thunderstorm swirled in and dumped some wet stuff on the later century riders. By the time they finished and got cleaned up, the sun was back out, and after the complementary dinner in North Fork, everyone enjoyed sitting around a campfire that evening. But the showers were back on Sunday morning, making the camp breakfast a bit less enjoyable than it might have been.

Next up was the Gran Fondo weekend, about which you can read more on page one, and about which you have probably already read much more in the local paper. It was pretty big news. And while most of the big news was good news, unfortunately not quite all of it was. The local paper has also reported—and our chat list has detailed—an incident where one driver went on a road rage rampage. There have been many, many reports of a maroon Ford Explorer swerving at riders along Coleman Valley and then Graton Road around 3 to 4 in the afternoon. Finally, near Green Hill on Graton, the driver pulled out all the stops and rammed into a couple of riders at high speed. The riders went down hard and were seriously injured. The coward in the SUV fled the scene. Eye-witnesses say this was no accident, even of the hit-and-run sort. They all agree it was deliberate...as the legal language would describe it: “with malice aforethought.” At our press time, the assailant was still at large, but the police are taking this very seriously. We can only hope the slimeball will eventually be tracked down and sent to prison for a long time. It was nice to see the PD run a very strongly worded editorial condemning this creep and urging everyone to keep an eye out for him. The local fishwrap hasn't always been that friendly to cyclists, but these days, we're getting the good press and the auto-bullies are getting panned.

One other Fondo item, not mentioned in the piece on page 1: the weather could not have been any better for a big ride. It was a bit bracing at the start, but by mid-morning it was all blue skies, with the occasional horsetail cloud whispering along above the ridges. Once up on King Ridge and Meyers Grade, riders were treated to lovely views all the way to the far, blue Pacific horizon. It might have touched 80° later in the day. No adverse wind issues. Everything was just about the way it would be if you had ordered “Perfect Cycling Day” out of a catalogue.

The next day, after all the excitement, we actually had a regular old club ride on the card. Nikola listed a C ride going up Cavedale and down Trinity. He said a dozen people showed up, and that's pretty much all he had to say about it, except that he got two, back-to-back flats, after which he had no spare and no patches and so was dead in the water. Fortunately, it happened near a friend's place and he was able to mooch a ride home.

The next weekend—October 16-17—is the last one we can cover this month. On Saturday, Bill Carroll listed a classic wine country loop. In fact, after working over from SR to River (via Riebli), it turned into our WCC 100-K route almost exactly. That's about as easy as a loop can be in Sonoma County, so the two dozen riders who showed up made it harder by keeping the tempo cranked up all day. Three hardy souls chose to do an optional loop around

Sweetwater, which turned their day into a century-sized package. Paul Stimson was the driving force on this longer loop, and he conned two other guys into the bigger commitment, then made sure they got it done with dignity intact. The rest of the crew stuck together pretty well, in spite of the spanking pace. Bill C was especially pleased with the smoothly rotating paceline the lead group got going on Hwy 128 and Red Winery, south of Geyersville. Some in the group were unfamiliar with the workings of a rotating paceline, but after some on-the-job training, they got it and got into the groove with everyone else. (It's always a treat to see a newbie unravel the mysteries of a good rotating paceline for the first time.) We had nice regroupings at the Dry Creek Store and Jimtown Store. One flat tire, quickly fixed while we were hangin' in Jimtown, and otherwise smooth (and fast) sailing all day.

It was Grand Central Station up in the heart of the wine country on this day. First, our two dozen riders ran into a group ride out of the West County Revolution shop in Sebastopol, all of us taking a quick break together at Wohler Bridge. They had even more riders than we did...maybe 30 or even 40. They left ahead of us, but our faster riders started reeling in their slower ones almost immediately, so we were all tangled up going north on Westside and West Dry Creek. It was at that point that we ran into a southbound stream of riders doing the Asti Tour de Vigne. A few hundred of them at least. Meanwhile, we had one catered tour group riding north on West Dry Creek and another one riding south. Then about 30 hogs cruised north (the Redwood Empire chapter of the Harley Owners' Club) while strings of tractors and trucks were hauling bins of grapes here and there...the last gasp of crush. It all added up to a pretty busy beehive of activity all over Dry Creek Valley, but I'm pleased to note that everyone appeared to be working well together and even managing to keep the auto traffic flowing smoothly up the middle of the road.

But back to the start of the ride for a minute: recall that at the beginning of October it had been 100° on several days. The rides on the first two weekends of the month had dodged the worst of the heat, but were very balmy and pleasant. Well...what a difference a few days makes. It had been in the mid-90's almost the whole week leading up to this ride, but on this Saturday morning, it was cold. Riding across the lowlands along the Laguna, there was a clammy chill wrapping itself around us, and it was borderline painful for the first few miles. The chilly fog did eventually burn off and it warmed up to where we were stashing our arms and vests, but it never got hot the way it had been earlier in the week. This was the first day we really got the sense that the season had turned. Oh sure, we've been saying there's a nip in the air for weeks—in between the 100° days—but now, quite suddenly, it really did feel as if Autumn had arrived and Winter was waiting in the wings.

Sure enough, we awoke to a steady drizzle on Sunday morning. Ken Russeff had an AB ride on this day. So he has the dubious honor of the first official rain-out of the season.

On this same weekend, a few club members were taking part in yet another double century. This was the Autumn Solvang Double, which is a good bit harder than their early-season double. Riders who were there tell me it was cool and calm all day, so almost ideal for a long ride. SRCCers we know who did the ride: Greg Durbin and Karl Kuhn (both under 12 hours), Craig Robertson and John Witkowiacki (not too far behind). Congrats to all who have done California Triple Crown events in 2010! Next month we can publish a list of all members who earned their CTC laurels this year.

doing exactly that at the Sebastopol Community Center. In the end, the more upscale Flamingo package won out, but if we're not satisfied with the evening, we will look at other options for the years ahead.)

As ever, the floor show accompanying the dinner will be the presentation of the awards. While the Board decides most of these, it does so only with the help of many members who place names in nomination for the various awards. (We published a list of all the traditional award categories in the October [newsletter](#).) As we have noted repeatedly before, the Board needs as much help as it can get in figuring out the winners. With over 1200 members in the club, riding with different groups and at different speeds, sometimes on the weekend rides and sometimes on the weekdays, it's impossible for the small handful of Board members to keep track of what all the members are doing. That's why we ask the members to send us their suggestions. Thus far, many have done so, and we're homing in on some worthy recipients. We also welcome new awards: you can make up one of your own to salute one of your fellow members who has done something special this past year. They don't all have to be for heroic accomplishments either. They can be goofy awards for some slapstick gaffe that happened on a ride. If you can think of the award, we can present it.

*See page two for the full schedule and menu for the party, and for a link to the on-line registration form.*

---

## • CLUB JERSEYS AND SIZING SAMPLES •

Sometime in the coming year, the club will be placing an order for SRCC club jerseys. It's possible this will be a new design, but more probably will be another order of the traditional red-rose design. In any event, we are going to make an effort to accommodate some range of special orders, in particular women's cut jerseys.

We will place the bulk of the order as a bell curve of sizes in the standard size range (what we think of as unisex sizing, but which is in fact simply men's cut). Then we will take advance orders from members who want something different. This could be women's cuts, or it could be sleeveless jerseys or race-cut jerseys (a slimmer fit than our standard club-cuts). Race cuts and sleeveless are available for both men and women.

In the past, some women have not liked the fit of the women's cut jerseys. For what it's worth, Voler assures us that this in an entirely redesigned women's cut now, and is playing to rave reviews. To make sure that you know what you're getting when you place a special, advance order, Voler has sent us a full set of new women's cut sizing samples. We will be bringing these to future monthly club meetings so interested women can try them on. We will bring a set of our standard sizes as well for comparison.

Before you ask: long-sleeve jerseys and jackets cannot be combined with any of the above short-sleeve items to create a volume discount. They have to stand alone. We have no intention of ordering as many as 100 units of long-sleeve apparel, as we plan to do with the regular jerseys. Voler's minimum order is 25 units, and even if we could pull together advance orders for that many long-sleeve items, the price would be very high. We can discuss this further in the months ahead. It might happen, but it's unlikely. And if it does happen, the items would be quite pricey.

## More thoughts on the Gran Fondo

You can read about the Gran Fondo on page 1 and in *Backroads and Breakaways*: about how the Santa Rosa Cycling Club is "intimately and extensively" involved in the support of the ride, even though it is not technically our own event. A critical or pragmatically hard-headed observer might be justified in asking why the club is so involved with an event that is not its own. Or, to put it another way, what does it profit the club to be so involved?

It's a legitimate question. The simplest answer could probably be summed up as something like, "What's good for cycling is good for the Santa Rosa Cycling Club." Or, more precisely, what's good for cycling in Sonoma County etc. That begs the question: is the Gran Fondo good for cycling in Sonoma County? All in all, most friends of cycling agree that it is. If there is any downside to it, it is that it stirs up some backlash of resentment and resistance among the ranks of the bike haters out there, as evidenced by the road rage rampage on Graton Road. While in no way wishing to minimize the gravity of that incident or anything of a similar nature, that still amounts to a relatively small downside compared to all the benefits the event produces for cycling and for the local community (too numerous to be itemized here).

For the most part, the club's contribution to the event amounts to the volunteer efforts of a large number of members who not only give their time to the project but also bring a good deal of expertise with them. No other bloc of volunteers for the event has the wealth of experience our workers have in setting up and managing rest stops, nor in working behind the scenes on logistics and communication. So that's our stake in the event: labor and experience. We do not involve ourselves in the finances of the undertaking: we put no money into it and take nothing out.

So no, it does not profit the club in any tangible way to be involved. But remember that the club is a non-profit. We put on all of our own events simply to offer the public a way to enjoy cycling in this region in well-organized, well-supported events. The Wine Country Century, Terrible Two, and brevet series all have that as their primary reason for being. After covering our expenses at these rides, any "profit" is redistributed in the form of charitable grants to programs of value to the larger community.

In that sense, the Gran Fondo serves our purposes much as one of our own pay-to-ride events would: we are assisting in an opportunity to share our wonderful Sonoma County cycling experience with riders who might otherwise never visit here. That these events—the GF and WCC and TT—also generate downstream, collateral benefits for businesses and charities, and for the long-term health of cycling in the region...those are all value-added enhancements that make our club's involvement a win-win. It's a net positive for the club and for the community.

Aside from the general altruism of that notion, there are likely more personal reasons why individual members would volunteer to give a day (or more) of their time to help with the Fondo. Many would simply say that it's fun and interesting to be a part of a bike happening so big and so vibrant: to see so many riders in one place, having such a great time; to rub shoulders with luminaries like Levi and his pro peloton pals. It's a fortuitous circumstance that the volunteer efforts that are good for cycling in Sonoma County also happen to be fun and entertaining tours of "duty." In that respect, the SRCC's involvement with the Gran Fondo ends up being the best of both worlds.

# SANTA ROSA CYCLING CLUB

PO Box 6008  
Santa Rosa, CA 95406

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



Member: LAB • CBC • CABO • REBAC • SCTC • SCBC  
10/20/10 10:18

- President: Donn King.....823-5461
- Vice-President: Craig Gaevert.....545-4133
- Secretary: Rick Sawyer .....933-0760
- Treasurer: Greg Durbin .....528-4450
- Officers at Large
- Rose Mello.....543-5889
- Janice Oakley .....568-7062
- Richard Anderson .....431-0374
- Gordon Stewart .....823-0941
- Don Graham .....538-3664
- 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

To join the club or renew membership, please go to  
<http://www.srcc.com>  
srccride@sonic.net (Bill Oetinger, club e-wrangler)



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, November 10 • 6:30 PM  
Round Table Pizza  
(Occidental Road, west of Stony Point)

*Featured Presentation: representatives from CamelBak,  
discussing hydration*

Wednesday, December 8 10

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Open to all interested members)

Thursday, November 4 • 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, December 2

## Adopt-a-Backroad Litter Pick-up Day

9:00 AM • Sunday • November 7  
San Miguel School (Faught Road)

It's time again to heft our Hefty Bags and head out into the countryside in search of litter. Most of you know the drill, but for the ever-increasing numbers of new members, a brief summary of how, where, and why we do this...

The club has committed to clearing a couple of popular cycling roads of litter each year, one road each at six-month intervals. We do this, first of all, because it's simply a good thing to do. But we also do it as a gesture of goodwill to the residents along those roads, to show them that cyclists—at least those in the SRCC—are a positive force in the community.

We began the project—in conjunction with the County of Sonoma—in 2000, under the inspired leadership of Ed Ellington. In the beginning, we were only cleaning up West Dry Creek Road, twice a year. But after a few years, we decided to divide our energies up by doing West Dry Creek once each year and Chalk Hill once as well. We had our clean-up day on West Dry Creek six months ago, and now it's time to turn our attention to Chalk Hill.

Many hands make light work of this task...around 40 sets of hands would be just about right. We'll divide the ten-mile long road up into short sections to be walked by crews of two or three. The collected bags of litter are hauled off to the dump.

After all the work is done, we will retire to a local bistro for lunch, courtesy of the club. For more info or to sign up...

Mike McGuire • 542-6687 • mmcguire@pacbell.net