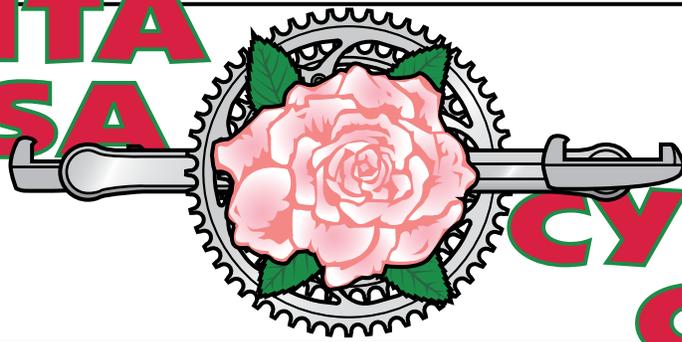


SANTA ROSA



CYCLING CLUB

DECEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

Chalk Hill Litter Pick-up a Clean Sweep

On a crisp fall day—Sunday, November 6—39 Santa Rosa Cycling Club members gathered at San Miguel School in the Larkfield neighborhood for our semi-annual work day dedicated to cleaning up litter along the county's back roads. Equipped with heavy-duty trash bags, safety vests, gloves and litter pickers, the crew fanned out along a network of roads centered on Chalk Hill, a popular cycling route.

Under the supervision of project coordinator Mike McGuire, they were there to pick up as much litter as they could find, which our trucks would then gather up and haul off to the dump. On this day, we had enough volunteers to clean not only Chalk Hill, but all or most of Faught, Shiloh, and Pleasant...over 24 miles of road. Best of all, at least half the volunteers were first-timers, which tells us the program is still gaining strength, still going strong.

For those of you new to the club (or with short memories), these work days have been going on now for over 11 years, dating back to November of 2000. Club member Ed Ellington proposed and organized the first one as a way for the club to do a good deed and also—we hoped—generate a little positive PR for the club and for cyclists in general. At the beginning, we focused our efforts on West Dry Creek Road, another popular cycling road, but a few years ago, we expanded our program to include the Chalk Hill neighborhood as well. After 23 work days, we feel confident in declaring the program a success. Each year we clean close to a thousand pounds of litter off some of the county's prettiest back roads. Taken in total over all those years and work days, that adds up to around 10,000 pounds of trash that have either gone into the landfill or been recycled...everything from beer bottles—lots of those!—to tires to televisions.

We hope our efforts have also pumped up the PR we were looking for. We almost always have locals along our routes stopping to chat with us and thank us for what we're doing. And we always make sure they know it's the club making it happen. We now have official-looking metal diamond warning signs that say the Santa Rosa Cycling Club is running the clean-up.

After our workers had done their good deed, they were rewarded with an excellent lunch at Johnny Garlic's in Windsor, with the club picking up the tab. As we noted ahead of time, it's actually quite a fun project, what with the good deed done, the walk along a pretty country road, and the nice lunch. Remember that when the call goes out for the next work day in the springtime.

New Year's Day Rides and Party

Weather permitting, we will be kicking off the new year with a slate of rides around the wine country on the morning of New Year's Day. There will be routes for all levels of riding ambition and tempo (at least ambitions appropriate to the midwinter date). The rides will begin at Schaefer School, near the corner of Coffey and San Miguel, and will follow approximately the same routes as our Wine Country Century 100-K Workers' Ride, with shortcuts inserted here and there for the folks who wish to travel at more leisurely speeds. Check the ride list in the newsletter or at the website for more details on the routes and start times.

After the rides, we will pedal to the club's warehouse (4023 Coffey Lane) for a party to get the new year off on the right foot. Our dedicated, creative volunteers are already planning the party: what to cook (pasta, among other things), how to organize it, and what to do if it rains. Be aware that parking is very limited at the warehouse. If at all possible, travel to the warehouse on your bike. If the rides are rained out, we will still have the party. In that case, we'll do the best we can with the parking of cars, including parking cars out on Coffey Lane.

NOTE: New Year's Day this year falls on a Sunday. If the forecast is for rain on that day, but for better weather on the Monday holiday, we will send a blast e-mail to the whole club announcing a switch to Monday. We have done this twice in recent years and it has worked well. If the weather forecast looks iffy for Sunday, be sure to check your e-mail before going to bed on New Year's Eve.

This is a members-only event and registration is required (so we can accurately estimate food purchases). Registration will be set up at the club's [calendar](#) of rides and events.

We have our volunteer leadership in place for the party—as always, the dynamic duo of Sharron Bates and René Goncalves—and they are being supported (*all of us* are being supported) by a volunteer crew from the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition, looking to give a little back to the club that often supports them. We may still need a few SRCC vols to help the SCBC vols, so if you can assist, please get in touch with...

Sharron Bates (526-3512, Sharron@RandalOptimal.com)

MINUTE MIX

Highlights from the General Membership and Executive Board meetings for November

1. Call to Order: President Donn King called the general meeting to order at the Round Table on Occidental Road on Wednesday, November 9. 65 members and friends were present.

2. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Greg Durbin was absent. Secretary Rick Sawyer reported on the club's bank balances, as of October 31.

3. Membership: Registrar Gordon Stewart reported membership of 1336 (combining individual and family memberships), which is up 31 from last month. Timothy Brown acted as host at the New Member Table, with several new members on hand.

4. Terrible Two: The Board decided to raise the entry fee for the TT to \$95 because of continuously rising costs for various support activities. This is at or below the cost of most doubles.

5. Facebook: David Abramo noted that we currently have 114 "friends" at our new FB page.

6. GranFondo: Steve Drucker gave an extended report to the Board on the SRCC involvement with the Ritchey Ranch rest stop.

7. Budget: The special Board meeting to iron out the 2012 club budget was postponed.

8. Awards: Karen Thompson reported to the Board that she, David Abramo, and Bill Oetinger had arrived at a final list of honorees for our year-end awards presentation at the Holiday Dinner. They are still working on the full scope of the presentation.

9. Grants: Secretary Rick Sawyer reported that all nominations for grant recipients have been organized and placed at the club website for member voting. The voting period extends through November. Once the votes are tabulated, the Board will make the final allocations based on available funds in the budget, and those final amounts will be announced at the next general meeting.

10. Jersey: Don Graham announced that the Board is soliciting design contributions from the members for a new club jersey. (See article, this page.)

11. Archives: Webmaster Gordon Stewart announced that the club's on-line ride archives have been expanded and revised to offer a better overall package of ride options.

12. Litter: Mike McGuire recapped the recent Adopt-a-Backroad litter pick-up day (November 6). (See article on page 1.)

13. WCC: Doug Simon introduced himself as the new Chair for the 2012 Wine Country Century.

14. SE Greenway: Vin Hoagland spoke to the members about an upcoming community meeting concerning the Southeast Greenway plans. (See article on page 5.)

15. Warehouse: Treasurer Greg Durbin informed the Board that renewal of the lease on the warehouse is almost finalized.

16. Tours: Bill Oetinger noted that he is planning a new club tour for August 4-12, 2012: Northwest Oregon. Doug Simon added that he will be running a revised and expanded version of this year's Wild Rivers Tour in July. Both will open for reg in early 2012.

17. Feature presentation: Bill Oetinger presented a brief slide show on the club's Southern Utah Tour (from last summer), and then showed a short video of the tour made by Steve Linden.

New SRCC jersey: a work in progress

The Santa Rosa Cycling Club is in the market for a new club jersey...or, possibly, for an *old* club jersey.

The classic red-rose SRCC jersey has been the public face of the club for 17 years now. We're not sure exactly how many of these garments have been produced down



the years, but over the course of several orders from our supplier, it has added up to a considerable number of jerseys and vests. And for awhile there, we were also offering the same design but with yellow roses.

Now, with current inventory running low, we are thinking about a new order. But the question has arisen: do we order another hundred or so units of the red-rose jersey, or is it time to retire that old design and come up with something new...either entirely new or at least an update of the old design.

The Executive Board has been kicking this topic around for months, and has introduced a second question to the conversation: should the Board make this decision on its own—behind the proverbial closed doors—or should the members have some say in which jersey the club will choose and the members will wear? The answer is that we want more member involvement. It's the right thing to do, but is also the more complicated option.

As noted in the Minutes last month, the Board has opened up the design process for a new club jersey to any member who wants to take a stab at a new graphic. This design-and-submission period is going to last until around the end of this year. (The Board reserves the right to hedge on the exact deadline.) All designs must be prepared in a computerized graphics app, such as Illustrator or Freehand. The designs don't need to be camera-ready for production, but they need to be polished enough that the art department at our manufacturer can work with them. Any existing club logos that might be included in a jersey design can be obtained from Bill Oetinger.

So far, we have heard that there are as many as half a dozen designs on various "drawing boards" around the club. We haven't seen much finished product yet, but we hope to see some exciting new designs soon. If the Board agrees that a design is acceptable, it will be presented at our website, where members can vote for their favorites. While the vote will count heavily in the decision, the Board also reserves the right to deliberate and decide on the final selection. Included in any offering of new designs will be the option to vote for the old red-rose design, as we have heard many club members saying they still like that one.

As is the case with all of our club tasks, any design work on this project is entirely a volunteer undertaking...not for pay. The only compensation will be that, if your design is selected, you will receive a free jersey and vest.

If you have graphic arts skills and some bright ideas for a new jersey, it could be that your design will end up being the new public face of the club for years to come. And if you care about the look of the club jersey, be sure to vote for your favorite when we put the new designs up at the website. That should be happening early in the new year. We'll keep you posted...

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: srccride@sonic.net.

We pick up the never-ending thread of club rides with those on the weekend of October 22, beginning with Bill Carroll's century ride, which included the promise of a barbecue at Bill's house after the ride. Bill reports: "You couldn't have scripted better weather than we had for Saturday's century: sunny and clear, with temperatures that eventually (just barely) got to the hot side in Alexander Valley. We had a great turnout, an estimated 35 riders at the start, and picked up some more along the way. Riding in memory of Matt Wilson, vowing to make it 'the best day ever,' we rolled out to the turn onto Ribieli, where the group started to splinter. There was a strong contingent of D riders, including Marc Moons (on his mountain bike!), and the pace was high into the first stop at Guerneville. By the time I brought up the rear, the fast group was gone, though there were still several riders milling about. We started together up Sweetwater. I stopped at the top to wait and met two riders coming the other way who reported that the leader in our group (knew it had to be Marc) had gone down on some slick pavement at the bottom. By the time I got there, Marc was gone, but another of our riders, out of town Claire (from Las Vegas) was being loaded into a truck. She too had fallen at exactly the same spot (shaded, wet, with some moss on the road, on a tight, steep, off-camber turn). A good Samaritan in a pick-up brought her down. She was OK, but her helmet was smashed. (We didn't get the full name of the driver, unfortunately, but he went way out of his way to help.) She eventually made it to the barbecue, where she seemed to be doing fine. From there the ride was pretty uneventful (the way we like it). By the time I got to the house, my wife Pam, a nurse, had taken charge of Marc and his substantial road rash, getting his wounds cleaned. The grill was fired up and the food coming. For the next hour or so riders wandered in, ready for a little socializing. We had a great time eating, drinking and visiting. The company was great, the food was good, and it was a perfect way to end a really good day of cycling."

On Sunday, Sarah Schroer listed a hilly but short—54 miles—loop from Sebastopol out to Coleman Valley and north to the river. Most people must have been roped in by Bill's promise of barbecue on Saturday or by the skills clinic on Sunday, because only five people showed up for this very nice ride on another lovely day. We set out from Ragle Park by way of Pleasant Hill Road. I had done the Friday club ride out of Ragle two days before, and it had used the same route to get out of town. As we left town, I contrasted our little group of five riders with the group of nearly 35 riders that had set off together on Friday, and I wondered why we cover the ride with five riders here but not the one with 35. All I can say is that this is pretty much how it has always been: that we don't cover the club's assorted weekday rides in this space. With two or three groups each setting out on two or three different weekdays, we simply wouldn't have space to cover them all. The retelling of rides would go on and on, and after awhile, they would all begin to sound the same...even more than they do already. Suffice it to say that we know the weekday rides are out there and that they are amazingly popular, even when they sometimes don't have ride leaders, and even without any coverage in this space.

Anyway...Sarah's ride was for the most part pleasantly uneventful. Thanks to some timely regroupings, our little gang of five managed to stay together through all the ups and downs over those steep west-county ridges. Only at the end did we get separated a bit. Another reason the attendance was low might have been because this was the day of the second memorial service for Matt Wilson, scheduled for the afternoon in Camp Meeker. Many club members were there, and over our last few miles, we caught sight of several of them heading out that way.

This was also the day of Tom Helms' skills clinic, where he was ably assisted in the mentoring by Chris Culver and Jonathan Lee. After the poor attendance at his last skills class, we pumped this one up a bit and it paid off: over 50 riders attended. Tom says they had about an hour and a half of parking lot drills and then headed out onto the roads in groups divided up by levels of prior experience in pace line riding. There was in fact one pace line-related crash, which probably illustrates why these clinics are a good idea. Tom has another skills clinic on the list this month, and although it hadn't been settled at press time, it's likely that he will have his fellow mentors on hand again to assist.

On the last weekend in October, we had two longer rides and two shorter rides. On Saturday, the longer ride was Doug McKenzie's Two County Coastal Century, now almost a club tradition. Doug sent this report to the chat list: "We had about a baker's dozen start the ride, a few at B pace, the rest at the listed C pace or maybe a little faster. A bit cool at the start, but it quickly warmed by the time we made it to the top of Coleman. The coast was perfect: about 70°, clear, and almost still. A few peeled off after Bay Hill (which now has more BIG pot holes than ever!) and another after Tomales. The Marshall Wall was a warm climb but not hot. The road has been repaired well, with stretches of new pavement. Regroups were frequent at the tops of climbs but never more than a few minutes. Just long enough for the front riders to enjoy the view and pleasant weather. Deanna again saved the day by having snacks and water at Bloomfield. Two of the remaining seven chose to skip the last climb over Burnside and ended up with a reported 94 miles. The rest of us rolled in to Piner with exactly 100 miles. Great day on the bike! We are lucky to live in such a beautiful place."

Also on that day, Mike and Janice Eunice listed an A ride out of Sonoma, out into the Carneros district. "30 riders and 29 bikes met at the Sonoma Barracks for a ride out to Moore's Landing. When most of us arrived it was 47° with the sun shining, but as the minutes edged along towards 9:10, many of us started to peel off the extra layer of clothes because it was up to 51°. We were going to start at 9:10, but someone had a flat, so we all waited and chatted and talked about how nice the day was going to be, and then we finally left at 9:20. I noticed that most of the riders were women. The Carneros had colors of yellow, green and red...the start of autumn...the sun shining, a slight breeze, and no traffic. What a wonderful day in Sonoma. Of course we had to watch for the many potholes, but as soon as we crossed the Napa line, *hmmm*, smooth roads. Oh well, we can't have everything going our way."

On Sunday, the longer ride was Laura Stansfield's Rockpile Metric Century. She reports: "This ride was just another example of some of the beautiful rides Sonoma County has to offer. It was a fantastic day for riding and the fall colors blanketing the vineyards a treasured sight. We started the ride in Healdsburg with just under 20 riders, and as we made our way to the base of Rockpile we picked up a few

— 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 slips. Riders must carry ID, emergency contact and medical info, and should carry cash, tube(s), flat repair kit, and water bottle(s).

HELMETS AND ID 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...go to Calendar of Rides

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 3

Pre-Holiday Dinner Ride
3/BC/48
9:00 AM • Bill's house
135 Alderbrook Drive, SR

A fairly simple and not-too-challenging ride to whet one's appetite before the Holiday Dinner. West through town and out along the SR Creek path and onward to Occidental Road, Mill Station, Green Valley, Mays Canyon to a break in Guerneville. Then back home along the river and Westside, Wohler Bridge, dodging south around the airport and back into town via Old Red, etc.

Bill Carroll—623-9783

Howarth Park to Kozlowski Farm
2/AB/33
9:00 AM • Howarth Park

West through town and out the Santa Rosa Creek Trail, then Hall, Sanford, Occidental, etc. to Graton. Up the hill from Graton to a break at Kozlowski Farm. Return along Oak Grove, 116, and the Joe Rodota Trail.

Jack Hartnett—538-5225
cyclingjack@yahoo.com

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 4

Cycling Skills Clinic and Ride
1/BC/25
10:00 AM • Stony Pt & Northpoint

Low-key bike-handling skills clinic, followed by easy paceline training ride. Learn to ride to keep the group together. Do parking lot drills for about an hour. Then ride down Stony Point to north Petaluma and Penngrove. Coffee stop. Return via Cotati, West Sierra, Stony Point. Club veterans who know the drills are welcome to assist with the mentoring.

Tom Helm—332-8792
tomhelm@sonic.net

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 10

**Fourth Annual
Holiday Chocolate Ride**
2/AB/41
9:30 AM • Esposti Park

North along Faight, Chalk Hill, and Hwy 128 to Jimtown. Further north to Geyserville and a stop at Geyserville Mud Coffee. Back south via Geyserville, Fredson, Lytton Springs, Chiquita, Grove. South of Healdsburg: Old Red, Arata, Hembree, etc. Riders will receive a ticket good for a coffee, tea, or chocolate

at Geyserville Mud, compliments of John & Carole.

John & Carole Kolnes—838-3988
arttenus@sbcglobal.net

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 11

SRCC Welcome Wagon Ride
1/A/10-15
10:00 AM • Julliard Park, SR

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
nicenice@sonic.net

**Lots of Rollers
and a Few Good Hills**

3/C/59
9:00 AM • Cotati Dog Park

A different twist on the classic Cotati-Tomales run. South to the outskirts of Petaluma, then west through the chicken belt to Chileno Valley, Wilson Hill, and the Marshall Wall. North on Hwy 1 to Tomales, then west to the top of the hill by Elephant Rock. North on Franklin School, east on Whitacker Bluff and Fallon-Two Rock, north on Carmody, and back home via Roblar, Stony Point, West Sierra.

Laura Stansfield—415-613-3302
SearchK9@pacbell.net

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 17

Sebastopol-Marshall-Petaluma
3/BC/62
9:00 AM • Ragle Park

Another shot at the Marshall Wall, only from the other side. South out of Sebastopol on Bloomfield and Ghericke. Down the coast on Hwy 1, then up and over on Petaluma-Marshall Road, Wilson Hill, and Chileno Valley. After a break at Helen Putnam Park, zig zag through north Petaluma to Middle Two Rock, Pet-Valley Ford, Roblar, Canfield, etc.

Donna Norrell—292-0565
donna.n@comcast.net

Highway to Hill
2/A/33

9:00 AM • Esposti Park

South from Esposti on Old Red and Fulton, then west on the Santa Rosa Creek Trail, Willowside, Hall, Sanford, Occidental. Up and over and down on Mill Station and Dyer,

into the town of Graton. Then south to Sebastopol along the bike path, Occi, and Hwy 116, with a break at Andy's mid-ride. Then the assorted sections of the Joe Rodota Trail, through Sebastopol and back to Santa Rosa. Finally, north on Fulton, capping it off with a loop out toward the airport.

David Abramo—650-533-2330
djabramo@yahoo.com

Sunny Mawson—838-3138}sunny.
mawson@yahoo.com

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 18

Cavedale-Tinity

3-5/B/50

9:00 AM • Howarth Park

Out into the Valley of the Moon via the parks and Oakmont, Lawndale, and Warm Springs. Arnold Drive and Madrone to the big climb of Cavedale and the slinky descent of Trinity. Back home along approximately the same route as the outward-bound journey.

Dave Batt—546-5301
irenebatt@hotmail.com

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 24

No rides scheduled. Check the on-line calendar for rides listed closer to the date, when people's holiday plans are sorted out.

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Cookie Ride

1/A/22

10:00 AM • SW Community Park

Sue's Christmas Cookie Ride is an almost annual club tradition. Start in SW Santa Rosa, head west to Sebastopol, then north along High School, Sanford, Hall, and Willowside. Turn east toward SR along Guerneville and then work south through SR to the finish. Bring some cookies to share at Sue's house after the ride.

Sue Bennett—523-1322
sbenn@sonic.net

SUNDAY • JANUARY 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

NEW YEAR'S DAY RIDES

2/A/22 • 3/B/52 • 3/C/59

10:00 AM • Schaefer School
(San Miguel Rd, east of Coffey)

Our traditional kick-off for the new year. If the weather is good, expect to see at least 100 riders at the start. If we're rained out on Sunday but it's better on Monday, we will reboot for the second day. All rides stop by the SRCC warehouse/club house (4023 Coffey Lane) for lunch and socializing. Ei-

ther ride to the start or park cars at nearby Schaefer School. This ride is members-only and requires an [RSVP](#). See article on page 1 for more information.

A: Barbara Drucker—538-5256
BDrucker@sonic.net

B: Timothy Brown—542-5150
me@timothybrown.net

C: Bill Oetinger—823-9807
srccride@sonic.net

FOR SALE

KHS Tandem, 2010 Sports Model

In great shape! Mountain bike style, 23 gears, less than 100 miles. Kick stand, mud fender, orthopedic grips, reflectors, extra pair of pedals. Reason for sale: the frame ended up not tall enough for a 6'5" captain.

Paid \$1,000.00, will sell for \$500.00

For more information or to make an appt:

Darcy Major—579-5690
dmajor@sonic.net

SEEKING RIDING PARTNER

I'm seeking a partner for 2 rides per week. I'm an A-tempo rider who wants to work towards a solid B and the stamina for a double century. Any age or gender would be welcome.

Dave Dietz—479-8114
david.dietz@meadhunt.com

COMMUNITY MEETING

Southeast Greenway update

The Southeast Greenway Campaign will take the next steps toward creating a bike path from Farmers Lane to Spring Lake Park at a community meeting—"Movin' On The Greenway"—on Saturday December 3, 10 am to noon, at the Glaser Center. The meeting will highlight the American Institute of Architects' final report: *Imagine...A Greenway to Spring Lake and Beyond*. The report offers a provocative vision for transforming the old Highway 12 right-of-way and includes plans for:

1. Bike and pedestrian trails
2. Natural habitat restoration
3. Neighborhood interests
4. Economic development that meets community needs

As the campaign team begins working with Caltrans and the City of Santa Rosa, your involvement is essential. Share your responses to the AIA report and the proposed implementation plan.

View the report [here](#).

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

Jerry Fabiano—823-4201

Fourth Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol

Paul Musson—303-246-3182

Fifth Wednesday: Esposti Park, Windsor

Alfred Mascy—484-5885

C • 30-50 miles • 9:00 AM

First Wednesday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa

C: Looking for a leader

Second Wednesday: Healdsburg City Hall

Eric Peterson—433-7737

Third Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol

C: Looking for a leader

Fourth Wednesday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol

Johann Heinzl—539-7991

Fifth Wednesday: Howarth Park, SR

C: Looking for a leader

(All 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 (A group): Youth Comm. Park

Ken Russeff—953-1804

B & C • 30-50 • 9:00 AM

First Friday: Cotati Dog Park

B: Christine Logan—577-1422

Don Cropper—795-3236

C: Looking for a leader

Second Friday: Howarth Park, Santa Rosa

B: Doug Newberg—579-0925

C: Looking for a leader

Third Friday: Ragle Park, Sebastopol

B: Christine Logan—577-1422

David Henry—338-9125

C: Looking for a leader

Fourth Friday: City Hall lot, H'burg

B: Buck Hall—537-1946

C: Nabeel Al-Shamma—479-6246

Fifth Friday (B only): Esposti Park

Gary Grayson—538-9262

If you can remove any of the **red ink** from the list above, you would be a hero for all the weekday riders. We are especially in need of C leaders. If you are a C rider on the weekday rides, you should think about this. If you're doing the rides anyway, why not lend a hand?

If you want to know more about what's involved in leading rides before committing, talk to the club Ride Director or to any of these ride leaders.

more. It was a pleasant ride and most of the group stayed intact for the journey to the base of the climb, making for an impressive sight for those who saw us rolling down the road. As expected, the 12+ mile climb had the riders spread out a bit. After a regroup at the end of the road, the descent was pretty much the same thing: there were gaps between riders, since some descend faster than others. We decided a regroup at the bottom would be good so that we could keep the group intact for the remainder of the ride, which was pretty flat. Thank you to those riders who reached the top and waited for others and for those that reached the bottom first and did the same. Next stop was Geyserville, and as we rolled down the road I heard a cyclist riding the other way, say, "that's a big group!" It was a nice feeling to have that sort of presence on the roads SRCC calls home. As we rolled into Geyserville, the sides of the streets were lined with show cars ranging from the '30's to the '60's. We stopped for coffee and then continued our journey home. At this point, a few riders decided to take a more direct route while the majority continued to follow the original route, and we kept the group pretty much together at a good pace for the balance of the ride. Thank you to all the riders who came out to enjoy the beautiful day. I thought we had a great group out there, and that makes the ride even better."

The shorter ride on Sunday was Sunny Mawson's and David Abramo's Tricks & Treats ride. Sunny sent in this note about it: "The tricks were mean and the treats were beautiful downhill rewards. It was the Halloween ride and 20 A riders showed up, some in costumes, among them a cat and a strange neon green tarantula. At least one of the A riders was unclear on the meaning of Cat 3 hills. The ride had over 2000' of elevation gain in less than 30 miles, so the riders worked for their downhill treats. Emiko, a member from Emeryville, came all the way here to be tortured and rewarded. About a quarter of the riders stayed for lunch afterwards to celebrate the day."

First up in November was Mr Bill's Mt Tam ride. The Santa Rosa forecast was for rain by midday, coming down out of the NW. But we bought ourselves a few hours of dry skies and roads by virtue of the ride being in southern Marin, just that little bit further away from the incoming front. There were 30 riders at the start, a good showing on such a threatening day and so far from home. We had a dozen or so raindrops fall on us as we worked our way through the pretty neighborhood streets of Ross, San Anselmo, and Fairfax, but by the time we started climbing up Fairfax-Bolinas Road, the wet was left behind. The higher we climbed, the nicer it got, with even a few fleeting glimpses of sunshine and blue skies up on Ridgecrest. I have to say: the run up Ridgecrest to the summit is one of the most beautiful bike rides in the world. Everyone should do it at least once a year...a pilgrimage to Mama Tam. And the descent's not too bad either. We all bombed down off the mountain to a regroup at the Depot in Mill Valley, where half the group elected to have coffee and do the full course and half decided to bail and make a beeline for the finish in San Rafael. So off they went, off-course and on their own. (We learned later that they all got back okay.) The rest of us continued around Seminary and Tiburon and Paradise, and then at the end, we threw in a new twist: a trip through the new Cal Park Hill bike tunnel, from Larkspur Landing to San Rafael. It took us awhile to sniff out the trailhead, but finally, with help from a local rider, we found it...and what a nice addition to

Marin's bike infrastructure. An old railroad tunnel recycled as a bike tunnel. Very nicely done and hugely convenient. It began to drizzle again just as we rolled off the final mile of the ride, and by the time we were in our cars, heading out of San Rafael, it was raining big time. That's how close we cut it.

Back in Santa Rosa, Jon Dick had his birthday ride on the schedule, an A-tempo ride out in the Sebastopol hills and then down to Penngrove. They were that much closer to the approaching weather but the ride was shorter. Jon says there were 15 riders on hand and that they managed to complete the 37-mile just as it began to drizzle. They finished up with a coffee stop at Atlas Coffee Company, down near Julliard Park. Jon and Wendy rode their tandem home from there with the rain finally starting to get serious...but they too just squeaked by without getting wet.

Sunday was dedicated to our semi-annual litter pick-up project. You can read more about that on page 1, but I will just add that the rain that had visited briefly on Saturday was gone by Sunday, and we did our little tours of duty in the dry. Any piece of litter that could soak up rain water had done so the day before, so our trash bags got a bit heavy. But that was a minor inconvenience on an otherwise very enjoyable morning.

On the following weekend—Saturday, November 12—Joyce Chang listed another birthday ride, with a party at her home to follow. Joyce fired off this note about the day: "With a 20% chance of rain looming in the forecast for the day, nineteen stalwart cyclists pulled out from my driveway to ride the Geysers from the front side. En route to the base of the Geysers, another four joined our group to total 23. The BC listing implied a certain speed that we'd ride, but more importantly that I as ride leader was not planning on waiting for all the riders at each regroup. Nevertheless, all but five of us rode as a cohesive group from start to finish—amazing! It helped that it was my birthday, and people were being nice. Just as important though was that we planned three short regroups: Hawkeye Ranch, the TT rest stop summit and the Cloverdale Food Mart. Liz Sinna, Sherry Adams and I, three featherweight chicks, descended Sulfur Canyon with Dave Batt on our tails. Evidently he was trying to chase us down. When he finally caught up with us, Dave, gasping for breath, incredulously announced that he couldn't understand how the laws of gravity defied him in chasing us featherweights *downhill*. We three chicks kicked butt! "Ride stats: No accidents, three flats, six 'virgin' Geysers riders, 4:15 total ride time, 50.6 miles, 4600' of climbing, and no rain.

"After the ride, most of the riders stayed for a birthday luncheon, care of Costeux Bakery. Thanks to all who joined me on my birthday ride and lunch!"

On the same day, Barbara Drucker, Carole Kolnes, and Jack Strange listed an A ride called Tour de Photo. The name of the ride alludes to the secondary purpose of the ride: after the cycling, there was an agenda for taking photos of the lovely autumn scenery. Carole sent in this report; "The conversation with the photo gods paid off: the cycling photographers were not to be disappointed. Sonoma County put her best foot forward. The vineyards were draped with golds, rusty browns, cadmium orange, scarlet reds, sunny yellows, and multiple shades of green. This gorgeous autumn day brought out 29 riders to explore the beauty of this little spot of paradise we call home. We set off after admiring the vibrant rainbow trout at the beginning of the Prince Greenway Trail. Barbara, Jack and I stayed in the back making sure everyone got rolling. We are glad we did because one rider did fall and bent her bicycle. Thankfully



Santa Rosa Cycling Club Randonneuring

SRCC Randonneuring coordinator Robert Redmond filed this report on the club's rando program for the past year...

Randonneuring ridership tends to follow the quadrennial Paris-Brest-Paris 1200-km, which happened this past August. We had 337 registered riders for the events in our brevet series, a 64% increase over last year. Thanks to the cooperative efforts of our club and the Davis, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco clubs, there was a Northern California brevet almost every weekend, with limited overlap. Our club introduced a second 200-km brevet that looped around Boonville and Ukiah in February (that was almost cancelled by snow and ice but did happen). Our 600-km took on a whole new tone with a lot of riders deciding to spend the night in Pope Valley and enjoy the hospitality. Then in July, we debuted an overnighter in partnership with the San Francisco Randonneurs, with a route from San Francisco to Cloverdale on Saturday, then back on Sunday, with a lavish dinner organized by Ginger Kuhn. While Karl Kuhn, Craig Robertson, and Tom Miller made the journey to France and finished PBP, others just wanted to complete the Super Randonneur qualifying series. Tony Lee, Barley Forsman, Susan Forsman, Peg Miller, Sarah Burke, Karen Thompson, and I all rode the required 1500 km, but John Russell decided to do it twice. Mike McGuire is on track to complete his R-12, a 200-km brevet each month this year, making use of a list of permanent routes that can be ridden at any time.

Look for more randonneuring news in the January newsletter, and check the club website for the club's 2012 brevet schedule.

B&B, continued from page 6

she only had a few bruises but had to have an adjustment on her handlebars, which Jack (with brute strength) was able to remedy. On Ross Road, there were a dozen or more magnificent horses grazing on the green pastures. When we called to them they reared their heads and trotted up to the fence. It was as if they had been trained to pose. They lined up, turning their heads in several positions as if to say 'OK, take the picture!' Kozlowski Farms, our rest stop, resembled an oil painting done by one of the masters. It was crisp, sunny, and colorful, with a feeling of festivity in the air. The trip back continued to exhilarate and inspire. Someone said they saw Levi pass by. No surprise there: who would want to miss such a stunning day? Most riders had gone when we returned to the Santa Rosa City Hall parking lot, and all that was left was the chanting of Occupy Santa Rosa. We would like to thank the riders for joining us on this glorious day and making this such a special ride."

While we have a spare inch or two here, we'd like to mention the travels of club members Alfred Mascy and Pat de Lambert. We know Alfred gets up to some interesting cycle-tours each year, and so we asked him about this year. His reply: "Earlier this year, we returned to New Zealand—third time for me—and spent a month cycling both the North and South Islands. We left Christchurch 24 hours before the devastating earthquake. More recently, we completed a month-long cycle tour of the Rhine and Mosel areas of Germany, the Alsace region of France, and a little of Luxembourg. And then finally, we did a week-long tour in the Sierra. Sometime in 2012, I hope to present a slideshow at one of our monthly club meetings." Mind you, this is all self-supported, fully independent touring. Whew!

California Triple Crown: SRCC rocks!

The cycling sub-culture of long-distance riding is alive and well in the Santa Rosa Cycling Club, at least if you use participation in double centuries as a yardstick for measuring the activity.

For those of you new to cycling, a double century is a ride of approximately 200 miles—two centuries—completed in one day. If you haven't been there and done that, the idea of riding that many miles non-stop might seem preposterous. Having the mental and physical stamina to stay on the bike for anywhere from 12 to 18 hours taxes one's imagination: how is that possible? For whatever it's worth, most doubles riders felt that way too, once upon a time, before they discovered it could be done. And they may still feel that way on any double that pushes them beyond their comfort zone, somewhere out there on the lonely road, deep into that second century. For even the hardest, most experienced riders, there are days when the challenges become too much: too many miles, too much heat, too much headwind, too many aches and pains... If it were easy, everyone would be doing it.

And that's why we're so impressed with our fellow club members who are knocking down the big rides, in spite of the many challenges. In our state, we have the California Triple Crown double century series, which each year offers more than a dozen doubles, scattered around the state, from early spring to late fall, on which riders can explore their limits. Finishing any three doubles in one year will earn riders their Triple Crown laurels.

This year, the SRCC had a record 27 riders who reached the lofty goal of completing at least three doubles (and as you can see from the list below, many did more than three). Here are our 2011 California Triple Crown winners, in alphabetical order, with the numbers of doubles completed...

Mike Aberg (5), Richard Anderson (3), Megan Arnold (4), Kamran Asmoudeh (3), Shane Barnes (3), Richard Burger (3), Michael Burke (3), Sarah Burke (3), Ken Cabeen (4), Greg Durbin (3), Tina Forsman (4), Joe Gorin (3), Don Graham (3), Vince Herrera (5), Peg Miller (5), Marc Moons (3), Robert Morris (9), Vern Piccinotti (5), Garth Powell (5), Craig Robertson (10), Paul Robinson (3), Rick Sawyer (5), Sarah Schroer (3), Luke Scrivanich (3), Patrick Seely (5), Paul Stimson (5), John Witkowicki (5).

In addition, there were *at least* another 24 members who completed one or two doubles (and we're not counting quite a few more unofficial doubles and long brevets completed by this busy bunch, and we probably missed a few as well). Just the official finishes alone add up to 153 doubles...almost 31,000 miles.

We have already noted that SRCC members took first place in all categories in the CTC Stage Race (men's, women's, and tandem divisions). Now, in addition to those front runners, we can see here that the club has a very deep bench: loads of riders who can stay the course for the long distance. We think it's interesting to note that this group of riders does not include many more riders who have done doubles and earned their CTC bragging rights in past years. Altogether, there are probably at least 100 riders active in the club today who have figured out—either this year or in some past year—that riding 200 miles in one day is in fact possible and occasionally even fun.

But right now the spotlight shines on the riders listed above. They signed on for the job this year and got it done. Hat's off to all of you: the SRCC long-haul truckers of 2011.

SANTA ROSA CYCLING CLUB

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René Goncalves.....570-6653

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, December 14 • 6:30 PM

Round Table Pizza

(Occidental Road, west of Stony Point)

*Featured presentation: Bring your own Christmas cookies
and short slide or video presentations on 2011 tours*

Wednesday, January 11

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Open to all interested members)

Thursday, December 8 • 6:00 PM

Marlow Center Round Table Pizza (Marlow & Guerneville)

Thursday, January 5

Century Challenge on-line log book

Elsewhere in this issue, you can read about club members who have ridden many long rides this past year. Now we want to urge those members to enter all those big rides in our Century Challenge interactive [log book](#) at the club website. It's not too late to open an account or to update an existing one. Creating an on-line log takes about five minutes and adding the data even less time. Admiring the results might take a little longer.

The Century Challenge log is one little program the club offers for documenting and saluting the accomplishments of club members who tackle big rides. Any ride of approximately 100 miles counts, be it a solo training ride, a pay-to-ride event, a century-length brevet, or a double (which of course counts as two centuries). If you open an account now, you can enter all your rides for the full year in one big data dump: spring it on us at the last minute and amaze us all with your impressive numbers.

Impressive numbers aside, we also want to stress that any century at all is cause for applause, especially if it's your first one or one of only a few you've done. Listing just one or two for the whole year is fine. We would still like to see that listed so we can honor it.

This isn't just about bragging rights. There may be some of that, but much more importantly, these logs serve as inspiration for others who can see the numbers and think: I could do that! Then, next year, they will be able to add their own centuries to the list. So go ahead and open an account. It's easy and fun.