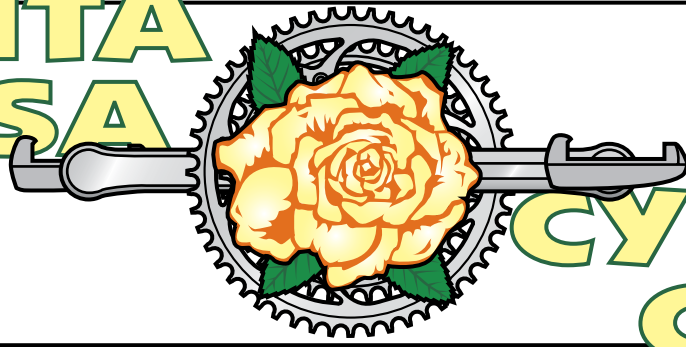


SANTA ROSA



CYCLING CLUB

JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER

Wine Country Century: the best ever?

Every year, when we review the recently concluded Wine Country Century, we find we've run out of superlatives to describe the day. Unless it rains on that first Saturday in May, we end up digging around in our locker of shopworn clichés, looking for some way to describe perfection with a few new adjectives we haven't used before. Such a problem to have...

In fact, this year's big event, held on Saturday, May 3, has been described by co-chairs Doug Simon and John Mills as probably the smoothest, most trouble-free century in memory. Committee chairs, who conducted a debriefing of the event at the May club meeting, all agreed. It was a big success, from start to finish.

The weather could hardly have been better. It had flirted with a record-breaking 100° during the week leading up to the century, but on the day of, it was ideal for a big ride: brisk in the morning, then mid-70's in mid-afternoon. A wind out of the northwest was a bit of a challenge heading north up Dry Creek Valley, but after lunch at Warm Springs Dam, it turned into a spanking tailwind for most of the final 30 miles of the ride, when the riders needed it and appreciated it the most.

Check-in on Friday evening and Saturday morning was efficient, with waiting kept to a minimum. Glitches were pretty well non-existent. Staggered start times and split routes kept the rivers of riders flowing smoothly and eliminated most friction with motorists. There were reports of only around half a dozen accidents, resulting in only minor injuries. The rest stops were well-organized and well-staffed, and our cheerful, busy volunteers kept the riders fueled up and happy. And throughout it all, our beautiful Sonoma County scenery was doing a star turn, looking as good as it ever does, in its best spring colors...from vineyards to ridge tops, from redwood groves to river crossings. (Imagine you were a visitor from, say, LA, seeing this landscape for the first time. It would be love at first sight...cycling through paradise.)

At the finish, it was wall-to-wall happy campers, with ear-to-ear grins, all rehashing their nice days while hoovering up the good chow. But don't take our word for it: check out the many comments at the WCC [web page](#), sent in by those satisfied customers. In their notes, the words "support" and "volunteers" appear often. That means *you*: all of you who gave a little of your time to make this such a successful day, for our visitors and for our club.

Doug Simon, WCC Co-chair, writes:

"Another amazing day for Santa Rosa Cycling Club! Thanks to

the efforts of 450+ skilled, knowledgeable, wonderfully friendly volunteers, 2500 riders got to experience a day to remember: Santa Rosa Cycling Club's acclaimed Wine Country Century. It is truly amazing what *we* collectively accomplished! It all happened because *you* contributed. Be proud! Thank you!"

Sarah Schroer, SRCC President, adds this:

"Many thanks to all who helped put on another highly successful Wine Country Century. The fact that so many participants return year after year makes it clear that we do a great job. At the end of the day, I spent several hours collecting meal tickets from hungry riders and also accepting countless compliments on the high quality of this annual event. I'd like to pass those compliments on to the 450 members who volunteered at the WCC this year. From those who staffed a rest stop for a few hours to those who put in a full day, and especially the committee chairs who worked behind the scenes in the months prior to the event: we couldn't have done it without you! Thank You!"

One week later: WCC Workers' Ride & Party

But we don't just say, "thank you" to our volunteers. We also reward them with one of the best days on the club's calendar. One week after our 2500 visitors have ridden the course, we offer the same ride (and after-ride party) to our workers.

This year, about 250 of our 450 volunteers chose to ride either the 35, 63, or 100-mile course. As had been the case the previous Saturday, the weather was made to order for a fun bike ride. Arm warmers and vests were appreciated early on, but then it warmed up and was pleasant for the duration, with that same northwest wind blowing everyone home over the later miles.

Under the big top at Wells Fargo Center, the party looked similar to the one from the WCC. There were not quite so many people on hand, but most of the people who were there knew one another, so the level of socializing was perhaps even more lively and congenial than it had been at the regular event. To be sure, there were a few unfamiliar faces, which is to be expected with a club that is adding new members all the time. But mostly it was a schmoozy mosh pit of old friends...the perfect chaser to the perfect rides that preceded the party.

As we never tire of noting, it was the embodiment of all the things that make this club such a treasure: hundreds of like-minded bike nuts, coming together to celebrate our mutual passion for the good life in Sonoma County.

MINUTE MIX

Highlights from the General Membership and Executive Board meetings for April

- 1. Call to Order:** President Sarah Schroer called the general meeting to order at the Round Table on Occidental Road on Wednesday, May 7. Approximately 56 members and friends were present.
- 2. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Greg Durbin reported on bank balances, as of March 31. April's figures were not available.
- 3. Membership:** Registrar Gordon Stewart reported 1714 members (combining individual and family memberships). Tim Brown presided at the new members' table, with one new member present.
- 4. Rides:** Ride Director Bill Oetinger and Webmaster Gordon Stewart discussed the evolving status of the ride calendar, where members can now submit rides at any time (rather than on a monthly cycle).
- 5. Newsletter:** Newsletter Editor Bill Oetinger and Webmaster Gordon Stewart reported on the process of moving from a hard-copy newsletter to a web-based news feed. (See item, this page.)
- 6. Education:** Sherry Adams reported on the SRCC Education Program survey, soon to be available at the website. The survey has been prepared by Sherry and Steve Kroeck.
- 7. BLB:** Greg Durbin reminded folks of the upcoming Bad Little Brother ride (19th annual), coming up on May 24.
- 8. WCC:** Chair Doug Simon reported on the WCC and coordinated a session wherein all present committee chairs commented on their part in the big day. (See article on page 1.)
- 9. Litter:** Mike McGuire reminded members that the club's semi-annual Adopt-a-Backroad litter pick-up day will be Sunday, June 1. (See item, page 5.)
- 10. Bylaws:** Sarah Schroer reported on the Board's work on the club bylaws. The committee is about two-thirds of the way through the process. The plan is to be in line with applicable laws and to have bylaws like other organizations similar to the SRCC. The goal is to clarify nominating and voting procedures for the club. All results and changes will be brought to the club meeting in October or November for approval.
- 11. April Alpina:** Sarah Schroer reported on the recently concluded April Alpina elevation challenge, noting that John Sullivan was the top climber, with over 100,000' of gain in the month.
- 12. Brevets:** RBA Bob Redmond reported on the brevet series. (See item in *Backroads & Breakaways*.)
- 13. Picnic:** It was announced that we are looking for someone to chair the End-of-Summer Picnic on August 23.
- 14. Event Insurance:** Jerry Meshulem indicated that the club could save on premium costs for events by identifying which participants are members because they are already covered and don't need to be under the event coverage. Jerry will look into this further.
- 15. TT:** Bill Oetinger reported on planning for the upcoming Terrible Two double century. (See article on page 5.)
- 16. Brochures:** The Board has asked Bill Oetinger to revise the club information brochure with new photos. (This is the free hand-out for bike stores.) Bill will be working on a new look.
- 17. Featured Presentation:** No presentation; the WCC debriefing was the main event.

End of the newsletter era

— Bill Oetinger, newsletter Editor —

This is the final Santa Rosa Cycling Club newsletter. Effective immediately, we will be switching our news content to the club website. Actually, "immediately" may not be the most accurate word in this case. I gave the club six months' notice of my retirement as newsletter Editor back in January, and I suggested then that the time was ripe for a switch away from a hard-copy newsletter and toward some sort of news content on the web.

The club has had six months to figure out how to proceed. The website has been reconfigured to accommodate the new content, and we will continue to tinker with it in the months ahead. We have been used to doing things one way for a great many years, and it may take us a while to sort out the best path forward into our brave new, paperless world. Change is never easy. Please be patient as we refine our new way of doing things.

When I took on the intertwined jobs of newsletter Editor and Ride Director in 1992, I never imagined I would continue to do those tasks for over 22 years...268 newsletters. Now, finally, it's time to move on. But I'm not disappearing entirely: I'm just shaking free of the monthly deadline grind. I will, for instance, still be filing reports on club rides at the website. (I will pick up ride leader reports from the chat list and edit them for the web, or you—the ride leader—can send reports directly to me and I will post them to the web.) I hope to still write up the bigger club events, such as the Wine Country Century and the Terrible Two.

But we do need new voices for the club's web site. We need other people to write articles and blogs and essays and announcements on all aspects of club life and on cycling in general. So far, almost all of you are hiding under your beds in this department: no one is offering to do any writing for the club. Having had me around—for 22 years—to write almost everything that needed to be written seems to have lulled the rest of you into a sense of complacency. That is going to have to change, and soon.

Perhaps it's not so much that nobody wants to write anything as it is that nobody knows what needs to be written. That speaks to our biggest challenge: finding one person who knows what needs to appear in our news feed each week; someone who can either write those items or find other people to write them.

At the same time that the club's news is migrating to the website, the club's ride calendar is also evolving, moving away from the monthly submission cycle dictated by the newsletter's publication and into a real-time process where rides can be submitted at any time and posted to the list almost immediately (following a review by the Ride Director). It appears to be taking people a while to adjust to this new format: they were used to receiving that monthly reminder about the holes that needed filling in the schedule. Without those reminders, it can easily become an out-of-sight, out-of-mind problem. To address that, we are placing alerts in the various calendar spaces, wherever we feel we could use a ride of this sort or that. If you browse the calendar on a regular basis, you should see these "help wanted" notices...and we hope they will prompt you to fill in those blanks.

My sincere thanks go out to the Santa Rosa Cycling Club's extended family for allowing me to mess around with the newsletter and the ride list for all these years. Writing about riding is not quite as much fun as riding itself, but it comes close.

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.

Before tackling the long litany of local club rides, I want to take a few column inches to salute folks who have been beavering away on the long-distance bike events around the state. They have filed reports on our chat list or on their own blogs, which make for good reading. I'll try to sum up their summaries here.

We don't have quite as many SRCC members doing the double-century circuit this year. This may be in part because two of the three events comprising the California Triple Crown Stage Race are in Southern California: Central Coast and Heartbreak. (Mt Tam is the third Stage Race event this season.) But we still have a few members trooping the club colors. Looking back to late March, Carl Sanders opened his account for the year with a snappy time of 9:23 at Solvang, good for third overall.

We had a good showing on the last weekend in April at the Devil Mountain Double, over in the East Bay hills. Marc Moons was third in a time of 12:55, with Carl Sanders not far behind in fifth. Georg Ockenfuss and Andreas Schultz also made the top 20. Reigning Stage Race champ Sarah Schroer was the first woman finisher (22nd overall) and led home Megan Arnold and Sherry Adams for an SRCC sweep of the women's podium.

Sanders was back at it in the first of the Stage Race events, finishing third at Central Coast on May 10. Robert Choi was not far behind in fifth, and Paul McKenzie (on a tandem) was an hour behind them. Clay Stark also finished. They were all on CCT's highland route, which supposedly was going to be the one that counted toward the Stage Race. However, due to an administrative screw-up too complicated to explain here, they have now decided to include riders from their easier lowland course in the Stage Race standings, but with a time penalty of 10% to adjust for the easier route. Whether that makes any sense or turns out to be equitable, I have no idea. SRCC members Craig Robertson and Robert Morris did the lowland route.

The next round of the Stage Race was the Heartbreak Double on May 17, down in the condor-country mountains around the Grapevine. Sanders finished second at 10:55, well ahead of the rider who had finished second at Central Coast, and so Carl moves into second overall in the Stage Race. Paul McKenzie finished tied for ninth. But he wasn't on a tandem, so his times may not count in the Stage Race. (You have to do all three events either on a tandem or on a single...no mixing. There may be an exception here, as Paul's stoker had to drop out because of an injury.) Clay Stark also finished. Official results haven't been posted yet for Heartbreak. If there were other SRCC finishers, I will have to let you know about that later.

The Davis Double was run on the same day, and a quick scan of their results shows the following SRCCers as having finished the big ride: Rick Sawyer, Andreas Schultz, Craig Robertson, Robert Thompson, Robert Morris, Brad Biancalana, Joe Gorin, and Gwen Tunzini (her first double, I believe). Congratulations!

Now then...back to club rides, beginning with those on Easter weekend. This year that included the traditional Clear Lake Double Metric (125 miles and substantial climbing, from Healdsburg over

to Clear Lake). Tony Lee and Doug Schrock were in charge, and Tony sent in this report: "A lucky 13 showed up, many of whom were veterans who knew the long yet scenic roads that lay ahead. One rider, Jeff, left early, possibly thinking we would catch him, but we never did. Scott Duncan met us at Chalk Hill before we began our climb up Ida Clayton. Darrin and Steve turned around at the top for a shorter ride and the rest of us headed down the steep gravel of Western Mine Road. Eric flatted on the descent and then again before Middletown with what appeared to be a damaged rear tire, so he opted to not continue. The remaining ten of us (Steve Kroek, Marc, Hunt, co-leader Doug, Scott, Miguel, Ken, Michael, Richard, and I) headed out Big Canyon, Seigler Canyon and the big rollers to Soda Bay. Weather was about perfect, with lupine and poppies coloring the hills. After lunch at Soda Bay, we rolled together through Kelseyville, up over Hopland Grade and down to Hopland. Michael and Doug chose Hwy 101 to return and the rest of us headed up Mountain House Road and caught the tailwind fast train back to the finish. Another great CLDM, with a great group of fellow riders to share it with."

The CLDM has been on the April calendar since 1999...16 years so far. I did the first 15 of them—usually as one of the leaders, along with the ride's creator, Rich Fuglewicz—but this year I decided it was time to give it a miss. Judging by who showed up, and the pace they would have set, it was the right call. It's a mark of the vitality of the club that new leaders will step forward to keep a classic like this one on the ride schedule. Thanks, Tony and Doug.

Janice Thomas and Gail Flatt listed a B ride on this day, and Gail sent in this report about it: "The ride started from Healdsburg City Hall with a total of 36 riders on a beautifully clear morning. The Healdsburg/Cloverdale 40-mile ride was originally scheduled to take in the Cloverdale River Park Trail. Unfortunately, the trail was closed for construction and will remain closed through June 13th. No problem. Riders were given a choice of a slightly shorter or a slightly longer ride. The route was the same for the first half of the ride: out Grove Street to Dry Creek then a left turn at Lambert Bridge to West Dry Creek, back to Dry Creek and then up and over Dutcher Creek into Cloverdale, with a stop at The Plank coffee shop. Twelve riders chose the longer route: an out-&-back on the seldom-ridden northern leg of Geysers Road. The original route traveled down Asti Road into Geyserville and back to Healdsburg over Lytton Springs and Chiquita. We are happy to report there were no incidents or accidents and not a single flat tire. Seemed like everyone enjoyed the ride."

I led a ride the next day, from Calistoga out to Pope Valley on a quest for April wildflowers. This was a 66-mile ride with somewhere over 3000' of relatively easy climbing. We had 19 riders. The pace was nominally B, but almost everyone there was BC to C, and it rode that way, at least for the first 20 miles, heading south down the valley on smooth new pavement, with a mild tailwind. Most folks stayed tightly bunched and worked well together in a 20+ paceline. Climbing Sage Canyon and Chiles-Pope, the group strung out some. We regrouped out in Pope Canyon to search for wildflowers. Turns out the displays right there were nothing special, but the poppies in particular were out in force on the run up Pope Valley, sometimes carpeting whole hillsides in their orange confetti. We took the usual break at the Pope Valley store, and then Ink Grade did its typically efficient job of breaking up the pack again. Everyone who likes descending had a ball with the many slinky miles down

— Continued on page 4

White Cottage and Howell Mountain....soooo much fun! After a regroup back on the valley floor, all that was left was a slightly tedious slog back up the valley into a mild headwind. We broke up the Silverado Trail miles with the Glass Mountain-Crystal Springs bypass and the bike trail past Clos Pegase. Afterward, several of us porked up on Mexican food and beer in Calistoga.

There were two rides on the last Saturday of the month. Steve and Jessie Kroeck relisted their Valentine Sweetheart Ride (rained out back in February). Jessie sent me this note about it: "Although our ride was typically feisty, it was just another fun ride with fun friends. Two flats. While we waited for one fix, a Monte Rio native couldn't help but mutter a snarky comment about 'those bikers in their tight-assed spandex.' Made me chuckle to be called this. We have been leading this ride since 1992, and the roads used to be a thrill. Now this route feels like a death ride, and we decided it isn't worth continuing, other than for tradition. But that isn't enough of a reason, so we're divorcing our Sweetheart Ride route. We'll still keep the Sweetheart status and we'll lead another ride in its place. Some good things just must come to an end."

Also on this day, Christine Logan had a trek to the tops of both Los Alamos and Sugarloaf. "Today 14 cheerful riders joined me for the chance to have some homemade cinnamon rolls. I, as their leader, drove out to the park—the Los Alamos Hood Mountain trailhead—at 8:00 a.m. with all the fixins, then got on my bike and rode up and out of the parking lot and down Los Alamos toward the start of the ride at the Fulton skate park. Halfway down Los Alamos I ran over what I have to assume was some sort of shrapnel by the sound of the explosion my tires made and by the over 1-inch gash that was left in my rear tire. I had an instant blowout of both tires. So I fixed both flats and was back on the bike by 9:05 a.m. Now, how to get to Fulton in five minutes? Not possible. But Bonnie Hogue led the riders out and I met the gang on Riebli. At the parking lot at the top of Los Alamos, five of the 14 made the extra credit ride to the trailhead for the cinnamon rolls. After chowing down, the brave riders rode up the 15% grade for the next 1.5 miles to the gate, where the rest of the gang was waiting. I drove up in my car to meet them with the extra cinnamon rolls. We all hung together up to the top of Sugarloaf and then headed back home. What a good bunch of guys and gals."

That took care of April, and we all know what happens on the first weekend in May: the WCC. You can read about that on page 1. But also on that weekend we have the club's new traditional hard ride: the Fearsome 5, hosted by Marc and Rita Moons. In case you're unfamiliar with it, this wicked workout goes over the Geysers, south to north, does the out-&-back on Pine Mountain, then retraces over the Geysers, north to south, heads south on 128 to the out-&-back of Ida Clayton, then returns to do the final out-&-back of Pine Flat. Almost 130 miles and over 15,000' of steep climbing. Marc filed this fractured Flandrian report: "Perfect weather made for good times on them Fearsome slopes. The following fine men defied gravity, and rose from pain stuck like meat on their bones, to treasure the most precious gift they have: Life. An honor and pleasure to announce they joined The Fellowship of The Fearsome 5. From now into eternity they'll be known as: Fearsome Georg Ockenfuss, Fearsome Richard Anderson, Fearsome Steve Kroeck, Fearsome Rick Sawyer, Fearsome Eric Lafranchi,

Fearsome Matt Muldoon, Fearsome Mark (?), Fearsome Ken (?). Inspired by the presence of The Fearsome 5's who did it again: Sarah Shroer, Sherry Adams, Troy & Karen (Tandem) Taylor, Carl Sanders, Scott Duncan, Miguel Sanchez, Hunt Moore, Tony Lee, Ken Cabeen. Darrin Jenkins.

"Last but not least I would like to give a Fearsome Hug to Rita. She cherished us with smiles and goodies. After all were taken care of, she jumped on her 29er fatwheels and pushed her Texas to the top of Pine Flat. She saw me coming on the 20% hellway to heaven, cranked it up and took QOM. Beaten by Flemish girl on MTB and Texas...dishwashing for me...from now into Eternity!"

Also on this day, Len Kopel led his first club ride, a classic wine country loop. He checks in: "The ride was advertised as a B ride with no drops and three regroups. We had 11 riders for the event, eight B, one C and two A. The C rider dropped everybody up Chalk Hill and went off on his own into Knights Valley. I stayed in back with the two A's to ensure they didn't get lost. While waiting for one of them at the intersection of Wohler and Eastside, from the corner of my eye I thought I saw her miss the turn and continue down Wohler. I made a U-turn back down Eastside to Wohler to River Road where the lost rider was waiting, perplexed. I pulled her down River to Trenton-Healdsburg North, where we caught the other A rider on course."

The following Saturday—May 10—was the WCC Workers' Ride and Party, which is also covered on page 1. With so many members doing the Saturday ride, we only had one listing on Sunday: another of Sue Bennett's volunteer fire department pancake breakfast rides (supporting our county's first responders while also enjoying a hearty breakfast and a nice bike ride). Sue sent in this short note about it: "A baker's dozen ate breakfast at the school in support of the Rincon Valley volunteer fire district. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed a pleasant ride on what turned out to be a great day. Halfway through the ride, a guest of one of our members rode up and asked if he could join the club via the website. Of course I told him he could."

Ken Cabeen sent a report to the chat list about his day at the Tour of the Unknown Coast (also on this weekend). This is one of the hardest—but also most beautiful—centuries in the state. It was raining at the start in Ferndale and Ken almost gave the ride a miss...did in fact watch the bulk of the riders take off in their misty mass start. But after another cup of coffee, and with clearing skies promising better things to come, he finally got on the bike for a late start and in the end had a delightful day. Ken says not chasing after the fastest of the front-runners allowed him to kick back and have a more relaxed ride. (I second Ken's recommendation about this ride: it's wonderful, at least when it's not raining.)

Janice Thomas was back in the mix with a ride out of Sonoma on the next weekend (May 17). "We had around 17 riders. I think the ride start at the Vallejo Barracks was confusing and had riders arriving later than normal. We waited another five minutes and rode around the plaza in search of riders before heading off on the route. I hung out with the back group and waited for someone with a flat. While I stood around and chatted, Chuck Pope earned a gold star for actually assisting with the flat repair. By the time I arrived at Browns Valley Market, the front group had been there a while. I released them to go ahead. Even though we had a headwind coming back, it seemed that before we knew it we were back on the bike trail and back at the ride start."

— Continued on page 5

Adopt-a-Backroad Litter Pick-up Day

Sunday, June 1 • 9:00 AM
Healdsburg Safeway parking lot

It's time again to heft our Hefty Bags and head out into the countryside in search of litter. The club has committed to clearing various popular cycling roads of litter each year, one road each at six-month intervals. Our chosen road this time around is Westside Road, from West Dry Creek to Wohler Bridge.

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. It's especially good to do this project after the WCC and WCC Workers' Ride, when we have put so many bikes on these roads and have perhaps caused the locals some inconvenience. To get that message across, we set up road signs while we're working that announce who we are and what we're doing out there.

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 we have cleaned the roads, we will clean our plates over lunch at the Bear Republic in Healdsburg, paid for by the club.

It's possible (and fun) to turn this project into a bike ride. Ride to the start in Healdsburg, then out to your assigned stretch of road for the litter lifting (stashing your bike in a secure spot). Then ride back into Healdsburg for the lunch, and then back home afterward. To sign up or for more information...

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

Ramona Turner • 479-7539 • raturner@sonic.net

More B&B *Continued from page 4*

Chris Jones had another B ride on this day that also took a break at the Browns Valley Market, although the timing of the two rides was different enough that the two groups missed each other at the market. Chris' ride was a seriously hilly challenge, with climbs of Cavedale, Mt Veeder, and Dry Creek (the super steep backside of Trinity). I was one of 14 riders who showed up for this one. It was a great ride...brutal but fun, if that's not oxymoronic. More like just plain moronic. Most of the riders stuck together through all of those steep ups and downs, or at least regrouped after each of the big hills.

Finally, we had our RUSA 400-K brevet on this same busy day (same day as Davis and Heartbreak too). There was a small field for this 250-mile marathon out to Clear Lake and back, but the club was well represented. Sarah Schroer and Miguel Sanchez were the first finishers, rolling in together. Sherry Adams, Neil Martin, and Kamran Azmoudeh were also there for the club. But what made this event special was how clubsters rallied around when the word went out that our brevet coordinator, Bob Redmond, had suffered a medical emergency and wasn't going to be able to manage the event. Karen Thompson, Tony Buffa, Cynthia Spigarelli, Bonnie Hogue, Mike McGuire—and probably others I've missed—dropped whatever they were doing to take over, which meant staying up all night as the riders trickled in. It's that kind of spirit that makes this club so great. Thanks, one and all.

And now...the Terrible Two

On-line volunteer sign-up at TT [web page](#)

With another successful Wine Country Century behind us, it's time to turn our attention to the club's other big annual event: the Terrible Two double century, coming up on Saturday, June 21.

While the field for the TT (and its companion 200-K, running on the same day) adds up to only a tenth of the size of the Wine Country Century field, that doesn't mean we can get by with one-tenth of the support. The primary reason for this is the scope of the challenge presented by the TT. The 200-mile course follows a remote, hilly route through Napa and Sonoma counties that adds up to one of the hardest one-day bike rides in America. And if it's as hot as it can be on that Summer Solstice weekend, things can get very nasty indeed.

While we expect the participants in both the double and the double-metric to be fit and self-reliant, we don't expect them to struggle around the arduous course on their own, without any help from the sponsoring club. (Believe it or not, there are doubles on the CTC calendar where the organizers pretty much expect the riders to do exactly that: to plug along all day and into the night with minimal support.)

But that's not the SRCC way of doing things. We will be the riders' best friends, with six full rest stops, extra water stops, and a huge celebratory dinner at the finish. Sags will be roving the course all day and all night, and more volunteers will be working at the warehouse, before, during, and after the rides, making sure all our equipment is clean and functional.

All of those efforts are overlaid by the SRCC's legendary hospitality and *esprit de corps*. We don't just throw out the challenge of this monster course to the riders; we don't just offer them support along the way; we actually root for them and applaud their gritty efforts. We make them feel special, so that they finish the day feeling as if they have been a part of something quite extraordinary. Veterans of many doubles will tell you that there isn't another double out there with this level of heightened excitement and camaraderie, and that's a big part of the reason the Terrible Two has been voted #1 in rider satisfaction by the participants in the California Triple Crown series.

This is all by way of reminding you that we need the help of our usual crew of stalwart volunteers to make the event "quite extraordinary." Many TT workers have let us know that they are ready for the challenge once again. Some rest stop crew chiefs are telling us their crews are already full. But other crews are still looking for new folks to fill in a few gaps. In particular, we need people at the big finish at Analy High School, where things are hoppin' until nearly midnight. We need folks for the late shift, when it's time to clean the campus and load everything into our trucks.

This year, for the first time, we have set up an on-line volunteer sign-up form at the club website, similar to that used for the WCC. Although many of you have already let one of the TT chairs know that you intend to work the event this year, we still need you to go to the site and fill out the form. (As we go to press, we see that many of you are doing this. Keep it up!) Then get ready for the big weekend, when the long-haul truckers of the bike world gather in Sonoma County for one of the most mythic rides around. If you've been there before, you know it will be epic. If it's your first year on the TT, prepare for a day you will long remember.

SANTA ROSA CYCLING CLUB

PO Box 6008

Santa Rosa, CA 95406

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Jerry Meshulam829-0787

John Mills.....477-7271

Steve Drucker538-5256

Newsletter editor, ride director: Bill Oetinger.....823-9807

Membership registration: Gordon Stewart.....823-0941

Meeting program coordinator: John Mills.....477-7271

E-mail contact list at club website [here](#).

To join the club or renew membership, please go to

<http://www.srcc.com>

Bill Oetinger, club e-wrangler: srccride@sonic.net

Gordon Stewart, webmaster: gastew@gmail.com

Ride calendar available at the club website.



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



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, June 11 • 6:30 PM

Occidental Road Round Table Pizza

Mariko and Kevin of Echelon, talking about bike fitting

Wednesday, July 9 • 6:30 PM

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

(Open to all interested members)

Wednesday, June 4 • 6:30 PM

Marlow Center Round Table

Wednesday, July 2 • 6:30 PM

Thank you, thank you, thank you...

To everyone who pitched in to help make this year's Wine Country Century one of the best ever.

But wait...there's more:

Now let's bring that same SRCC energy to bear on the Terrible Two Double Century (on June 21).

Go to the TT [volunteer page](#) and sign up for the job of your choice.

Good luck and fair winds to all of our friends and club mates entered in the ride. Have a great day!