

February/March 2008

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Upcoming Events

Club Meetings:

Round Table Pizza
Meeting Room
Sand Creek and Hwy 4 Bypass, Brentwood
New temporary location!

March 2nd 6PM

Board Meeting

All club members are welcome to attend.

March 2nd 7PM

Social Meeting

ANNUAL CLUB ELECTIONS!!



RUN FOR OFFICE!

Also, members should plan to re-join for 2008! Bring a check or cash. Individual memberships are \$20.00, family \$25.00



2007 Old Farts

Club Elections

Club Elections at March Social Meeting

The annual club elections meeting will be held on March 2, 2008, and there will be free pizza and drinks provided by the club as a special incentive for you to attend. With all the new members that have joined the club during the past year, this is an excellent opportunity for us to fill some of the club officer positions with some new people. Since many of the club office positions have been filled by the same people for the last several years, club president Randy Huey asked each of the current club officers to encourage a new member to run for their position at the March elections. Randy noted that it is important to keep new ideas and new enthusiasm coming into club leadership positions. So if you like being part of a bike club, and want to see it grow and prosper, start thinking about where you can best serve your club. At the March meeting we will be electing new members to the following club office positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Ride Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, and Newsletter Publisher. This is an important meeting to attend, so be sure to show up and get involved. After the club elections we will be discussing what types of activities and rides we want the club to focus on for the upcoming year. So mark your calendars now for 7pm, Sunday March 2, at the Round Table at Sand Creek and Route 4 Bypass. See you there!

Advocacy

The Brentwood Bicycle Advisory Committee met on January 24th. Seven committee members were present, including three staff members and four citizen members, three of whom are Delta Pedalers.

Staff reported that curb cuts that were funded by a TDA grant have been ordered with work to be done by city employees. They will be placed on the north side of Balfour at the Marsh Creek Trail to allow access to the trail, on the south side of Sunset Rd. at the Marsh Creek Trail, and three to be placed on the trail that runs along Armstrong Way to allow access from the street to the trail. Directional signs on the Marsh Creek Trail and city trails have also been funded and are in the design stage. There was much discussion about the design of the trail crossing at Concord Ave. This has not been funded, but the committee wants to make sure it is done right.

The committee also is interested in the bicycle and pedestrian access to the Streets of Brentwood shopping center. There must be bike lanes into the project. Staff members say that there will also be access from the Old Sand Creek Rd. Trail, at the back of the project. A committee member asked about the progress of bike friendly recommendations that were made by the committee pertaining to Sand Creek Rd. Staff reported that improvements have been made at O'Hara Ave., and that changes will be made west of Fairview along the apartment construction, at Willow Ln., and in front of the Streets of Brentwood. The next committee meeting will be March 27th at 4 PM.



The following is a response from East Bay Bicycle coalition Executive Director Robert Raburn to Club President Randy Huey's letter to Senator Torlakson regarding the trail overcrossing of the Highway 4 bypass:

Dear Delta Pedalers:

I am grateful for your action on pursuing the Mokelumne Trail Overcrossing of SR4 Bypass. Senator Torlakson's strong letter and EBRPD's Jim Townsend's appeal at the SR4 Bypass Authority meeting on Nov 8 rescued the project from being scuttled. Subsequently, Jim met with the parties to propose a funding plan (see attached). It does not sound like there is a tremendous outpouring of support for Jim's plan from CCTA nor Brentwood.

At another level, regional advocates have met with Federal Glover to discuss the MTC's Transportation 2035 Regional Transportation Plan. The \$2.5 million shortfall for the Mokelumne overcrossing was at the forefront of our pitch to augment the allocation of funds to complete Regional Bicycle Plan in the T2035 plan.

We have yet to find a solution, but my goal is to help maintain the focus on the goal until a funding solution is identified. Thanks again, for your contribution toward this goal.

-Robert Raburn, Executive Director



Camping

Changes in the Club Camping Program - Dave Stoeffler

Every year for the last 13 years, we have reserved a long weekend at the Spicer Group Campground. This year we have been unable to find an acceptable weekend at Spicer. I have been spending a lot of time looking for a replacement campground and I have found that most popular spots are already taken. I also asked club members for input and followed up on those suggestions. I finally found a weekend at a very nice campground, and have reserved a group site as described below.

Our club has reservations for a group site at Sugar Pine Point State Park, on the west shore of Lake Tahoe, for Thursday June 12th through Sunday June 15th. We will have room for both tents and RVs. There are toilets nearby and showers in the campground. No need to jump in the cold lake to get clean. There are both road and mountain bike riding right from the campground, hiking trails, and everything else you can do at Tahoe. We still have plenty of time to plan, but I would like to have a ride around the lake on Saturday, and our traditional potluck on Saturday evening. Plan ahead, but I will start taking reservations on April 1st. The price should be a little cheaper than last year. If you need more information give me a call at 634-1793 or e-mail dstoeffler@sbcglobal.net.

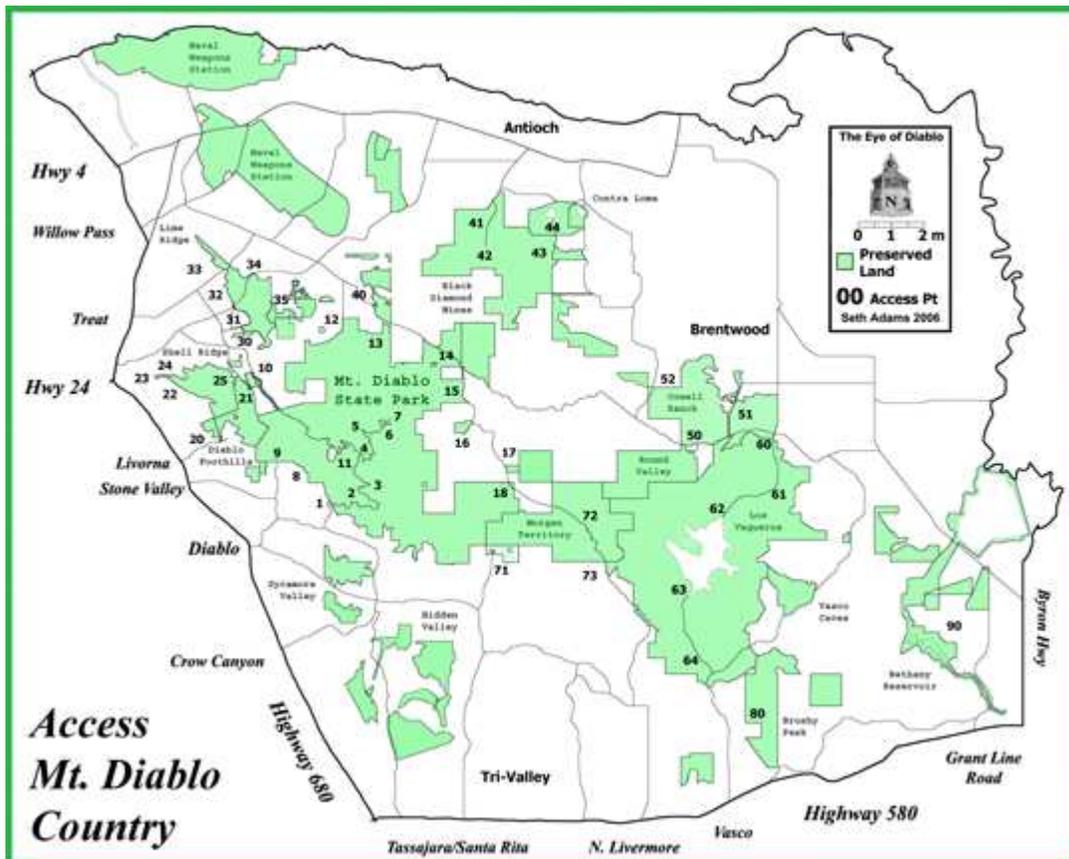


Sugar Pine Point State Park

Mountain Biking

Once again, BTCEB is gearing up for the Spring on the Mountain series of group rides. These rides have been well organized and in great numbers for the last few years by Save Mount Diablo and Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay - and mountain bikers like YOU!

As it is early in the season, they are looking to plan the group rides now and need volunteers to lead the various rides. SMD is interested in rides in the greater Mount Diablo area parks:



If you are interested in leading a ride during a weekend between March 15 and June 15 in one (or more) of the parks shown on this map, then please contact Daniel Levy (below) for more information.

For each ride, the following information is needed:

- 1) Date
- 2) Time (Meeting and Ride Start)
- 3) Meeting Place
- 4) Approximate route and/or a description of the ride
- 5) Approximate expected distance and finish time
- 6) Technical, Strenuousness and Overall (T/S/O) ratings from 1-10
- 7) contact information for people to RSVP for rides.

Rules to keep in mind:

Ride leaders are required to be paid BTCEB members (for insurance purposes).

A waiver will be filled out and signed by all participants. You will be provided with a waiver, either by hyperlink or hardcopy. This is critical!!!

Please keep the route to legal trails and to the parks shown on the SMD map.

Riders are required to wear helmets throughout the ride.

Starting last fall, BTCEB publishes a year-round event schedule online. This means:

- * You can submit your event anytime
- * Listed events can be updated at anytime
- * Links to your organization's website/ hike schedule can be provided
- * Maps, meeting point places, and hike rosters will be available online for you to view and print

Outings are encouraged in less heavily used parts of Mount Diablo State Park, as well as in neighboring parks such as Los Vaqueros, Black Diamond Mines, Morgan Territory, Round Valley, Lime Ridge, etc.

For more information, contact

L. Daniel Levy
Vice President
Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay
(925) 383-7436

<http://www.btceb.org>

Ride Reports

Holiday Lights Ride - Dave Stoeffler

The Holiday Lights Ride was on Friday December 21st, and was the largest turnout we have ever had for any ride. We lost count, but, there were between 40 and 45 men, women, and children on the ride! Several of the riders were visiting family members from out of town. Many of the bikes and trailers were adorned with lights and decorations, but none to the extent of Patric Durant, who was towing a trailer festooned with a 4-foot-tall lighted Christmas tree with a miniature Santa on the rear. Patric says that next year he is considering a sound system. The ride progressed through several residential areas with beautifully decorated houses, and then on the bike trail for a return to the start. The total ride was about 9 miles long. I have no idea where we were, but one of the houses was completely covered with lights, even in the rear, and had moving figures in many of the windows. We also stopped at another decorated house, about halfway through the ride, for hot chocolate. The weather was brisk, and not everyone was dressed for it, but at least it didn't rain, or snow. At the end of the ride we inundated the nearby Starbucks for hot drinks, snacks and fellowship. Thanks to Mike and Rynie Quan for leading this very popular ride.

Note: there were several riders, many of them children, who did not have lights on their bikes! Next year let's make sure we're all "well lit" for the ride!



*Editors' Note: The following contributor is mighty proud of his "folksy style". In the interests of marital harmony, I am not editing, but simply including as submitted.

Ye Olde Phartes Ride, December 1st 2007 - Mike Thomas

Though it had been a number of years since I'd attended, this one is an annual favorite. Up the north and down the south side of Mt. Diablo. And thought my personal fitness isn't what it could've been, I was looking forward to honoring (at least) Dave Stoeffler & Dick Anderson on their 72nd birthdays. In this spirit we set out.

A pretty and cold sunny morning greeted us: forty-something degrees F. Though I guess intrepid applies to all – one rider, Jim Sherfy, rode all the way to North Gate from Brentwood! Dave slowed the truck so that I could shout out our hello as we passed on Marsh Creek Rd.

At the Arbolado parking lot, we met Brandon, Peter and Steve. Soon afterward, DP stalwarts Mike N' Rynie Quan and Neal Gietzen pulled up in the Quan's Bread Box. That made ten (along with Dick, Dave, and a first-timer, Doug Jones of Brentwood). A fine group, even if I'm the only one to say so.

Ride Reports (cont.)

Riding up Mt. Diablo when one's conditioning isn't so good is still more fun than a flat ride –I can never convince others who have not done so. The 2007 Olde Phartes' Ride did not disappoint. In fact, there were other perennial experiences that made me "all warm and tingly":

- Chasing Mike Quan up another hill
- Dick's sandbag act: "I'm a slow climber so I have to leave The Junction earlier" (in reality, he finished ten minutes before anyone else – Dave did the same).
- Dave's leadership and fraternizing
- Helping a first timer (Doug Jones - even though he needed none)
- And finally: buying lunch at the Rising Loafer

The only question that remains is "why don't Dave and Dick gain any weight if weight is a function of age?"

Consider riding this ride in 2008. You won't regret it.



Farts Doug Jones and Mike Thomas

Member News

BECOME A MEMBER!

Why should you join the club? The Delta Pedalers is the only club representing Eastern Contra Costa County. When you join the club, your membership fees support, and you benefit from, the club newsletter and website, access to the club Yahoo Group list (email list, ride files, club mileage, calendar, photos), contacts with other cyclists in your local area, club ride clothing, and events such as the Spicer Camping Trip and the Christmas party. We also advocate for cyclists in East County in an attempt to make bicycling safer for all cyclists, both adults and children, and strive to encourage cycling as a means of transportation. Also, taking part in club activities develops lasting friendships among cyclists.

We need your support! We would like to grow the membership so that we can put on more rides and events, including our own club-sponsored century and club tours. Please join the club or renew your membership to help support the club and cycling in our area!



Ride Schedule

Ride Ratings:

Casual Δ

Moderate $\Delta\Delta$

Experienced $\Delta\Delta\Delta$

Hammerhead $\Delta\Delta\Delta\Delta$

+ next to Δ means that skill level and up.

Hill Ratings:

1 Essentially flat (Delta roads)

2 Low hills, rollers (Montezuma Hills)

3 Hilly - moderate length climbs (Deer Valley, 3 Bears)

4 Mountainous - steep grades/long climbs (Mt. Diablo)

Regular Weekly Rides

Monday Night Ride

Road $\Delta+$ Approx. 12 miles per loop

Weekly - 7 p.m.

Meet at the Brentwood Starbucks at the intersection of Sand Creek and the Hwy. 4 Bypass. Bike lighting required after dark.

Ride Leader: Jan McGreer (925) 757-8731, or Pete Villalpando (925) 513-7971. Please RSVP.

Wednesday Night Mountain Bike Ride

See you in the spring!

Sunday Morning Road Ride

The Weekly Ride. All rides meet at Panama Bay Coffee Co. near the intersection of Balfour and Walnut in Brentwood.

Start time for routes 2 & 3 is 9 a.m. October - March; 8:00 a.m. April - September.

Two routes are offered:

Route 1 –

Road Δ Hill Rating 1.5, Approx. 18-25 miles. Start time is always 9:00 a.m. This is a good introductory ride to our club. The group stays together by the faster riders looping around and repeating some sections, usually the climbs, while the slower riders go at their own pace. There is one moderate hill and several lesser climbs in each direction, and an optional difficult climb at the halfway point. We aim to return to the Panama Bay Coffee shop at about the same time as the Route 2 group. Ride leaders: John & Margot Coker (925) 439-1190.

Route 2 –

Road $\Delta\Delta+$ Hill Rating: 1.5, Approx. 30 miles, moderate pace, regrouping occasionally. The ride goes out through Byron to the Los Vaqueros Reservoir and Interpretive Center, and returns through Brentwood. Good training ride for those who would like to learn how to ride in a paceline. Bring \$ for coffee afterward. Ride Leader: Dave Stoeffler (925) 634-1793.

Club Rides

Moraga Loop

Road $\Delta\Delta\Delta$ 47 miles

Saturday, January 5; Time: 10 a.m.

Starting from Shannon Center, we'll climb over Dublin Grade to Castro Valley and continue up Redwood and Pinehurst to Moraga Commons. The return will be via Lafayette and Danville. Take I-680 to Alcosta exit and go west to make a left turn onto San Ramon Rd. Continue to Shannon Rd. and turn right, then right again into the park.

Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

Montezuma Hills

Road $\Delta\Delta$ 45 miles

Saturday, January 12; Time 10 a.m.

Join Mike for a fun ride out of Rio Vista through the Montezuma Hills. The ride will leave from Rio Vista, meeting at the Fisherman's parking lot at the foot of the Rio Vista bridge (make the first right after reaching the Rio Vista side of bridge and loop around to take the first right onto Front St, then take the first left into the parking lot). Rain cancels. Call if in doubt.

Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

American River to Folsom Lake

Road Δ 62 miles

Saturday, January 19; Time: 10 a.m.

Join Mike for an easy metric century along the scenic American River trail from Old Town Sacramento, past the fish hatchery to Folsom Lake and return. Those who would like can join in for dinner in Old Town after the ride. Bring water and lunch or money to buy at Folsom Lake. The ride will start at Discovery Park by Old Town Sacramento. Take I-680 north and get on Hwy 242 to pickup Hwy 4 through Antioch and over the Antioch bridge to Rio Vista. Then take Hwy 12 east to I-5, and continue on I-5 north to Sacramento. Exit I-5 at Richards Blvd, turn left onto Richards Blvd, turn right onto Jibboom St, and park in Discovery Park lot near the American River

trail head (just over the bridge into Discovery Park). Parking is \$5, and allow 1 ¼ hours for drive to Sacramento. Significant chance of rain cancels. Call if in doubt.
Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

Pleasant Hill to Crockett and Martinez

Road ΔΔ 32 miles

Saturday, January 26; Time: 10 a.m.

Ride with Mike through Franklin Canyon and along the Cummings Skyway to Crockett. Continue along Carquinez Scenic drive for a lunch stop on the Martinez waterfront, and then follow Alhambra and the Canal Trail back to Pleasant Hill. Bring water and lunch or money to buy. The ride will leave from the Pleasant Hill Community Center. Directions: Take I-680 to Willow Pass exit, go west on Willow Pass, cross Contra Costa Blvd onto Taylor Blvd, turn right on Civic Dr into Community Center park lot-LOWER lot. Rain cancels. Call if in doubt.

Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

Mt Diablo

Road ΔΔΔΔ 35 miles

Saturday, February 9; Time: 10 a.m.

Join Mike on a ride to the top of Mt. Diablo. Meet in the parking lot south of the Danville Railroad Museum on Railroad Ave. Take I-680 to the Mt. Diablo Rd. exit and go west; turn left on Hartz Ave.; turn right on Prospect; then left on Railroad Ave. to parking lot on your right. Bring water.

Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

Moraga Loop

Road ΔΔΔ 47 miles

Saturday, February 23; Time: 10 a.m.

Starting from Shannon Center at 10am, we'll climb over Dublin Grade to Castro Valley and continue up Redwood and Pinehurst to Moraga Commons. The return will be via Lafayette and Danville. Take I-680 to Alcosta exit and go west to make a left turn onto San Ramon Rd. Continue to Shannon Rd. and turn right, then right again into the park.

Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

Ride Guidelines

All riders must wear a helmet. One need not be a member to ride, but all non-members must sign a release form. Bring a sufficient number of water bottles plus a tire pump, spare tube, and patch kit. Carry your membership card and ID with medical information. Riders under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Ride leaders have the right to refuse to allow any rider to participate in any ride at their discretion. "No-Drop" rides will have a "sweep" at the back of the group who will make sure that no one is left behind. Rain cancels all road rides, and rain 48 hours prior cancels all mountain bike rides. Heavy fog also cancels all rides. Call your ride leader if you are not sure or want more information

*For a list of centuries and other paid rides, see the Ride Listing section at www.deltaped.org

Ride Leader Incentive Program

The club has ride leader incentive program to encourage club members to lead rides. If you lead a minimum of 5 rides in a membership year, you will earn a free family club membership for the membership year following. The rides must be listed in the newsletter, the sign-up sheet must be returned to the club ride coordinator, and canceled rides do not count. Contact the club ride coordinator, Mike DeMicco, at (925) 778-3000; email: blaster186@comcast.net, if you have any questions.

2007 ride leader award winners:

Randy Huey
Dave Stoeffler
Jan McGreer
Mike & Rynie Quan
John & Margot Coker

DELTA PEDALERS

BOARD MEMBERS

President:	Randy Huey, (925) 679-0375
Vice President:	Dave Stoeffler, (925) 634-1793
Secretary:	Matthew Poertner, (925) 427-7930
Treasurer:	Mary Engleton, (925) 778-2515
Ride Coordinator:	Mike DeMicco, (925) 778-3000
Editor:	Kathryn Thomas, (925) 308-7786

APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Registrar:	Mike Thomas
Finance:	by committee
Publicity:	by committee
Program:	DP Board
Safety Coordinator:	Dave Stoeffler
Historian:	Jan McGreer
Webmaster:	Matthew Poertner
Advocacy	Dave Stoeffler, Dick Anderson, Ole Ohlsen
Website:	www.deltaped.org

Do you have a ride report, pictures from a ride, advocacy issues or ideas for articles you would like to see in the newsletter? Email the editor! kate_p@sbcglobal.net

Sponsors

Please support our local sponsors:



Panama Red Coffee Company

4431A Balfour Rd.
Brentwood CA 94513
925-240-0536
www.panamaredcoffee.com



Aladino's Pizza

1324 Sunset Dr. Antioch CA 94509



Flagg Building Improvements

flaggbuilding.com



Jim McFarland

www.thewheelpeddler.com