

March 2009 Issue

## **Coming Events**





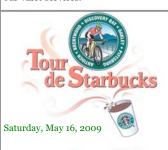
Come stop by our Energizer Station in the morning. We will be at Oak & 2nd street in Brentwood handing out free goodies for folks who bike to work

#### April 4th & 5th Free Bike Valet Service at REI



Ride to the new Brentwood REI store on Saturday or Sunday and receive free bicycle valet parking.

courtesy of Delta Pedalers. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Store coupons for those who use our valet services.



Presented by:





Vaqueros Dam Trials Saturday, April 18, 2009

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# Return to MTB, Riding Ft. Ord (Sea Otter)

By Branden Hays

So, this is where it ended. Sea Otter 2007 I had such a terrible race. Cramped for the first time, lost all motivation to pedal. The next day I strolled over and watched the Downhill race in the rain. A month or so later, I bought a downhill bike thinking that would be my new thing. It wasn't, I spent a 6 months in that pursuit. I neglected XC MTB, neglected road riding. I got really slow and out of shape. But after a long road back, I am stronger than before, new road bike, and getting out on the



From left to right. Branden, Rynie, Henry, Jim, Mike, Bill and Steve after riding the Sea Otter course.

MTB again. In the last month I have ridden more than I road in the last year. China Camp, Diablo and now Ft. Ord. Steve, Jim, Bill and I drove down to meet Mike and Rynie who were camping at Laguna Seca. *Continued on page 4* 



Taking a break along the course

#### **Next Board Meeting**

Our next board meeting will be on Sunday April 5th at the Round Table Pizza at Hwy 4 bypass & Sand Creek in Brentwood at 6 p.m. with our club social at 7 p.m.

#### If you haven't sent in your dues please do so now & help support our club.

Please be sure to renew your club membership by mailing your check made payable to Delta Pedalers, Box 2394, Antioch, CA 94531, or go to the "Join Now" page of the club website at www.deltaped.org, to renew your dues by credit card.

#### Up coming events

April 4th & 5th, DP will be doing valet parking for bikes at the REI grand opening.
April 18th, Los Vaqueros Dam Time Trials, race from the gate to the dam.
May 16th, Tour de Starbucks 8, 12 and 50 mile ride starting in Brentwood.
Aug 6th-9th, Spicer Camping Trip. Email dstoeffler@sbcglobal.net for reservations.

# **Ride Reviews**

#### Boggs Mountain the Final Frontier

By Branden Hays

Rynie mentioned it was about a two hour drive to Boggs, she was close. The 2 part was right, the hours were wrong. I think it took us 2 days. I know at some point on the drive up, I called in for a sub so I wouldn't be fired upon my return.

Sometime after waking up the next day, we were in Middletown. This is where I learned to shun technology, to go back to my roots, a simpler way of life. No, it wasn't the rustic town of Middletown (population 1500) that is so much like my upbringing, it was Dennis and the iPhone. See, after a day and a half on the road, we needed coffee. So like the technocrat I have become. I whip out the old iPhone to use one of my 15 applications designed to find you a Starbucks within 15 parsecs. While fumbling around waiting for my smart-phone to recognize that yes, I am in the milkyway galaxy, Dennis, not being restricted to mass conspicuous consumption of gadgets does the impossible. He actually asks a person. A real live person. (a pretty blonde female type person to be exact.) Who would have thought? Human contact with someone not on your fave-5 or facebook. For braving the unknown, and making first contact, and finding the best coffee ever (called a Cajun mocha: Mocha, praline flavor and espresso) Dennis is now known as Capt Kirk. Oh, and because Kirk always got the hot alien chick too.



Middletown, the final frontier.....



Capt. Kirk signs the sign in sheet...

And here we goooooo! Josh rockin the single speed hardtail today.



The first of many, many, many climbs....



Bill H. met someone he knew there, Bob (70 years old, smoking us on the climbs (the many, many, many climbs type of climbs) and his daughter, who was also smokin'. Sorry no pics of their smilling faces. (I assume they were smilling, and that they indeed had faces, but I am not sure, since I was never in front of them.



I was off my game in photo shooting today, which can only mean one thing.. the trails were great. So much fun, that stopping to take a pic was a rushed chore. Despite my descriptions above, Boggs is super flowy. Buff in most places. Yes, there is a price, the climbs, and few techie ascent sections, but well worth the descents and a lot of semi flattish flow section like Phils trail in Bend Ore-

gon. But unlike Phils trail, this is 5 days shorter drive time, and there is some Gnar-Gnar to be had (rocks, drops andfun stuff)



Rynie ripping through a rock garden drop and a two tier corner drop (that ate Steve).

Some of us were hurting a bit (read: A Lot) and luckily for me, I recalled I had brought food and a grill and I needed to cook also. Plus it was Rynie's birthday, she shouldn't be cooking alone. Oh, I was tired from the 2 hour drive. Let's see, what other excuses could I come up with.. yeah, too many days on the trainer this week.. any excuse would work for me to find a shorter way back... but first we had to finish another climb. Good thing, I got play one of the best parts of the trip again. Super smooth single track that lets you keep some good speed without too much downhill so your bike doesn't get carried away. Dennis and Steve joined me. The others wished they had.. (they were almost a hour late getting back to base camp). I was bummed I didn't get any usable pics of Chris and Randy, maybe they should slow down ©

But, waiting for all them was food.



And then we road off into the sunset.....

(I Wonder why Capt. Kirk just didn't use the teleporter?)

# Horses, Bears and Pigs, oh My! The Moraga/Three Bears and Pig Farm ride

A cool blustery day greeted us as we started in Martinez. Cameron Diputado, Dennis Tukua, Greg Houle, Randy Batsell, Neal Gietzen, Steve Diputado, Branden Hays, Bill Rodriguez, Mike and myself geared up and prepared for a long (to some of us it was a VERY LONG) day.



Riding along Reliez Valley Road, there is a lot of open space along with ranch type homes with beautiful horses. Great country side to ride through. You hardly notice the rollers and the continuous incline. Through Moraga Mike Smith showed us a way to use a bike path that is way safer and a lot less steep than climbing Moraga road. Clean restrooms at the top, too.

Next Pinehurst road. Beautiful, narrow, wooded and steep. Kept thinking about the triple optionsure would have used it if I had one!

Great day for Skyline road. Wonderful views of the bay, and the fast guys ahead of me. Lots of cyclists



The Pinehurst climb

use this road.

Inspiration Point and Wild Cat Canyon. Another climb (LOTS of inspiration here- mental-oooh, must do more climbing!- as well as physical- need...more...oxygen....gasp!)

The Bears- affectionately known as Papa (who has a "false" top) Mama, who is mild mannered, and Baby Bear, who is short but can make your legs colicky this late in the ride. Resting before the final ascent of Pig Farm, I notice that I am not the only one trying to stretch and rub out the cramps in my legs. A few people, Mike, Greg, Cameron and Randy, joke around and talk as if they were on a Sunday stroll. Neal passed by us with his head down and wouldn't stop. The rest of us look like either death warmed over, or like we just had our wisdom teeth pulled. Well, maybe not THAT bad.

Pig Farm. A gentle grade fools you

into thinking this isn't so bad. Then you notice you are out of gears, and what the heck is that hill in front of you???!!! Steve spun up this one, and Branden had no problem. I ground it out, hoping that the leg cramps weren't going to make me fall over. When it was over, RELIEF



Bill hitting the crest of the pig farm hill

was spelled out on a lot of faces.

Post ride meal was at KINDER's Barbeque. Nothing like "pigging" out (pardon my pun) after a LONG DAY of riding. rynie



The Pig Farm

# **Volunteers Needed for Delta Pedaler Events**

#### **REI** grand opening in Brentwood

We will have a table set-up with club information and we will be parking bikes in a vacant store next to REI. The times will be from 9-5 on Saturday and Sunday, April 4th and 5th. Please email Steve at pres@deltaped.org or call (510)459-5956 to let me know the times when you can help out.

#### Bike to Work day

We will have an energizer station at Oak and 2nd Street in Brentwood, offering folks who are riding there bike to work water, snacks, and a goodie bag to help them on there way and to promote biking to work. This will be on May 14th and the time will 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. call Dave Stoeffler know if you wish to help out.

#### Tour de Starbucks

We will be needing volunteers with registration, manning feed stations, marking the course, riders on the course to help out, and to help with set-up and clean-up. Email Steve or Peter pres or vp@deltaped.org or call (510) 459-5956

## **Ride Reviews**

### Sea Otter (con't)

I drove, I shouldn't have. I spent the previous 4 days chasing the Amgen Tour of California. Hours a day driving in the rain. It was a quick trip though with people to talk to. We started out hunting for



Skyliner road to start the course. Bombed the fire road downhill and got into the single track. Last time I was here, this was a conga line. So many racers stopped, waiting in line to continue. But this time is wide open. And I settled into the flow after taking a few shots. The trail was a little wet, so the ruts didn't trap your tires, but if you were 6 inches from the edge of a rut, it would cave in moving your bike around a lot. The first single track was as actually as fun as the descent. It was a good pump up to the top, with just enough rocks and lips to keep you on your toes. Then came my nemesis from the last time I was here. The sand descents. Previously, I wrecked 3 times down the first dune, this time I did better. Dabbed a few times, until my seat

busted off. That was a rude surprise. Seems maybe the rear bolt backed out and took a hit



peeling the last thread off. Rynie and I combed the sand and found all the pieces. Fortune was with us, since the bolt and nut did not strip. Seat back together, we went



on to the second sandy descent. The wet ground helped out keeping the sand somewhat firm and once I relaxed, it flowed... well not flowed, but managed to keep together to the bottom.

Time for the next climb. A tight single-track. Steep, lots of ruts and a few roots. I guess we were riding the course backwards from the



locals because no one was yielding to us being the uphill traffic. I went down in front of mike who was nice enough to stop. I believe if he had any more speed, he would have just rolled over me. I got stuck on the wrong line that ended in a big bowl of a rut. I tried to angle out left, but stalled out and went over. This was some pretty intense climbing. I stalled out a few more times, included running off the trail into a bush trying to race bill up one section. Once at the top, we stopped to ask the 40th person on what way to go. We ended up taking too much pavement and missed climbing the 3 sisters. I wasn't upset. I remembered those.



#### Spicer 2009

By Dave Stoeffler

This will actually be our 14th year of camping since the Delta Pedalers were founded. Last year we went to Tahoe, and everyone there voted to go back to Spicier this year.

The Spicer Reservoir Group Campground is located about 8 miles south of Hwy 4, some 22 miles east of Arnold, and 5 miles before Bear Valley. The Group Campground is completely separate from the family campground, and is on a bluff with a beautiful view of the lake, and the mountains to the east. There is a large cement, covered, eating area with BBQ pits for our use. There is also a camp-

fire circle, good piped drinking water and pit toilets. Many tent sites are sprinkled throughout the area, and there is room for six, small to medium sized RVs. This is a great place for families, and I don't think it has ever rained on us.

Our program is very flexible, and optional. Those that arrive on Thursday usually relax after getting set up, or go on short bike rides or hikes. There is usually a mountain bike ride on Friday, and on Saturday a ride up to Mosquito Lake for the hardy, followed by lunch at Lake Alpine. We have a group pot luck for Saturday dinner followed by a campfire. Bring your musical instrument, singing voice or campfire story.

Besides road riding there is so much more

to do there. Hiking, swimming in the lake, and boating, if you have a boat. Just sitting and enjoying the view is a major pastime.

I usually start taking reservation a month before camp, but, this year we are taking a trip until shortly be for camp, so, I will start signups now. Email me at <a href="dstoeffler@sbcglobal.net">dstoeffler@sbcglobal.net</a> or call me at 628-2671 to place your name on the list. I will put your name on the list when I hear from you and payment will be required by June 1st. The cost is \$20. a night for tents and \$25. a night for RVs. If you need further information, give me a call of ask someone who has been to Spicer, it's great.

#### **Ride Schedule**



#### Regular Weekly Rides

#### **Sunday Morning Road Ride**

Meet at Panama Bay Coffee Co. near the intersection of Balfour and Walnut in Brentwood.

Two routes are offered; Route 1 starts at 9:00 am, Route 2 starts at 8:00 am

#### Route 1 -

Road C1, Approx. 15 to 20 miles. This is a good introductory ride. All kinds of bicycles are welcome. We tailor the ride to those who show up and we can finish early if anyone is having trouble. There are few, if any, hills. We try to principally utilize the bicycle trails and quiet country roads in the Brentwood - Oakley area. We try to return to the starting point at Panama Red Coffee shop in time to meet with the 8:AM group which has a longer ride. Ride leaders; John & Margot Coker (925) 439-1190

#### Route 2 -

Road M+ 2, Approx. 30 miles, moderate pace, regroups 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.

#### Ride Ratings:

Skill level: C = Casual M = Moderate E = Experienced H = Hammerhead

- + next to skill level means that skill level and up.
- 1 = Essentially flat (Delta roads)
- 2 = Low hills, rollers (Montezuma Hills)
- 3 = Hilly-moderate length climbs (Deer Valley)
- 4 = Mountainous—steep grades/long climbs (Mt. Diablo)

#### **RIDE LEADERS WANTED!**

If you have a favorite ride, or a favorite eatery, why not make a ride out of it? It's easy. Let's talk. rynie

#### **Upcoming Rides**

#### SUNDAY, 3/22/09 Road 3-M 30 miles (48km) 10am **Pleasant Hill to Crockett and Martinez**

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 Pleasant Hill Rd 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. Ride Leader: Mike Smith, 925-628-4333

#### SATURDAY, 3/28/09 3-M 60 mi (96km) 9am - Mines Road.

Don't miss a chance to join Mary for her annual birthday ride up Mines Road in Livermore. We will meet on the street between the old library and the new one at 1188 S Livermore Ave, Livermore.

Ride Leader: Mary Engleton (925) 212-2735

#### SUNDAY, 4/12/09 3-M 35 miles (56km) 9am - Danville-Mount Diablo-**Walnut Creek**

Mike Smith will be leading ride from the Danville up the south side of Mount Diablo to the junction, and down the north side of the mountain through Walnut Creek and returning to Danville. Meet at the Danville Train Station on Railroad Ave, in Danville. Rain cancels. Call if in doubt.

Ride Leader: Mike Smith, (925) 628-4333

#### Thursday April 16, M+ 4, Sea Otter pre-ride (MTB Ride)

Call Rynie for info. (925) 706-1141 Time TBA.

#### Saturday, April 25: Andersen's Bakery Ride.

8:30 am. Road C2. Ride through the neighborhoods to Empire Mines and back. Some hills. Great breakfast panini's at the end. Bring \$\$ for coffee/ food afterwards. Ride Leader: Rynie (925) 706-1141

#### **Monday Night Ride**

Road C1 Approx. 10 miles per loop, start time: 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 (Starts April 1st)

MTB M+ 3+ start time; 6:30 p.m. 8 mile + ride. Mountain Bike - in the dirt! Meet at the gate on Fredrickson Rd. Lone Tree Way to Golf Course Rd. Right on Fredrickson. Will ride though Black Diamond Mines. The course varies. Show and go. Must have helmet. Rain 24 hours before cancels. Ride Leader: Rynie or Mike Quan: (925) 706-1141

#### **Thursday Night Ride**

Road E3 15 miles, no drop ride. 7 p.m. Meet at Brentwood Starbucks at the intersection of Sand Creek and the Hwy. 4 Bypass. Come on out if you like a workout on hills. Bike lighting required after dark.

Ride leader Ron Brown (925)354-6474

#### **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.



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 annual 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!

# **Advocacy**

#### PROGRESS ON THE BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE!

By Dave Stoeffler

On Feb. 12th three Delta Pedalers advocates spoke at a meeting of The Highway 4 Bypass Authority. Dick VrMeer, John Coker and myself described the need for the Mokelumne Trail bridge across the bypass, and urged the use of stimulus funds to complete the project. We were rather shocked by a lack of any response from the authority board, and didn't expect any action. I also contacted Mayor Bob Taylor, of Brentwood, expressing dissatisfaction with the lack of comment by the board. I was surprised to learn that the subject was placed on the agenda for this months meeting,

and decided to attend. On March 12th Ole Ohlson and myself attended the Bypass Authority meeting. I spoke briefly reminding the board member of my concerns, and after a presentation by the staff Ole brought them up to date about the history of the project. To our delight the authority board voted to fund continued planning for, what they call, the Mokelumne Bike/ Pedestrian Over-crossing.

It is my opinion that this bridge will be the only safe cycling route between Brentwood and Antioch, and will complete an important link in the Mokelumne Trail, severed by the bypass. We need to encourage every day use of bicycles for transportation by providing safe routes for commuting and shopping, and we need to keep the pressure on by attending the Highway 4 Bypass Authority meetings. The next meeting is on Thursday April 9th, at 6:45 PM at the Tri-Delta Transit meeting room at 801 Wilber Ave in Antioch. Usually, but not always, the meeting is short. Public comment is the first item on the agenda, and, it would be good if some new faces would indicate your concern that the overcrossing be completed. Feel free to contact me if you need further information.

#### **Road/Trail Maintenance Numbers**

BRENTWOOD: 516-5400, but the best way is online at http://ci.brentwood.ca.us For bike lanes on the street, click on Public Works - service request. For trails, click on Parks & Recreation - service request.

**ANTIOCH:** 779-7000,

**OAKLEY:** 625-7037

**COUNTY ROADS** (East County): Brentwood Maintenance Yard 427-8562

MARSH CREEK TRAIL & CANAL TRAIL

(Regional Parks): 625-5479

# **MINUTES**

From the January 4th Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order by club president, Steve Diputado at 6:PM at Round Table Pizza on Sandcreek Road in Brentwood, California.

#### Present were:

Steve Diputado, President Peter Villapando, Vice President John Coker, Secretary Jan McGreer, Ride Coordinator Cameron Diputado, Newsletter Editor Dave Stoeffler, Newsletter Publisher

- 1. The minutes for the meetings of September 7, 2008; November 2, 2008; December 12, 2008; and December 29, 2008 were approved as amended.
- 2. There was a general discussion about bike shop sponsorships, and general agreement that we may have to modify our policy in some way to maintain a neutral policy in regards to bike shops.
- 3. Steve reported on his investigation into our co-sponsorship of Tour de Starbucks a ride, planned for May 16 4. Dave reminded us that he has a

route for a metric century out of Rio Vista.

- 5. John reminded us about the idea of a two bridge century.
- 6. Next meeting is to be on March 1st, 2009, at Round Table Pizza on Sandcreek Road.
- 7. The board meeting adjourned on time at 7:PM

General Membership meeting followed at which the structure of the beginning rides (especially the Sunday ride) was discussed.

#### **DELTA PEDALERS BOARD MEMBERS**

President: Steve Diputado Vice-President: Peter Villalpando Secretary: John Coker Treasurer: Bill Rodriguez Ride Coordinator: Jan McGreer Newsletter: Cameron Diputado

#### **APPOINTED COMMITTEES**

Registrar: Mike Thomas Safety Coordinator: Dave Stoeffler Historian: Jan McGreer Webmaster: Randy Huey

Advocacy: Dave Stoeffler

Dick Anderson Ole Ohlsen

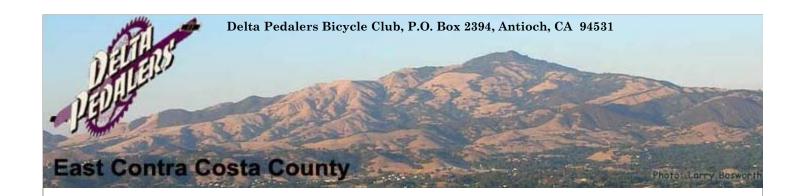
Website: www.deltaped.org



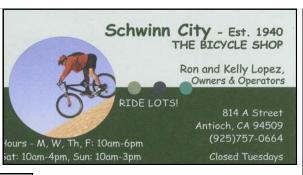
# The Delta Pedalers Bicycle Club Membership Application

To apply for membership, print this page, complete the form, and mail to: Delta Pedalera, P.O. Box 2394, Antioch, CA 94531

10 apply for m	embersnip, print this page, o	complete the form, and mail t	D: Delta Pedalers, P.O. Box 238	4, Antioch, GA 94531	
☐ I am a returning club mer☐ I DO NOT want my addre	ss and phone number to ap				
	Individual members must b	e 18 yrs. or older. Family me	00 per year. After September 1s nberships must include a parent	t; Individual Membership \$10.00, or guardian 18 yrs. old or older	
Enclosed is \$for	individual membership or \$	for family mem	bership. (Make check payable	to the Delta Pedalers).	
Name (please print)	me (please print)Co-Applicant (Spouse)				
Address					
City			StateZip		
E-Mail			Phone		
discharge all claims for dama result of my participation with Club, its members and their r	ges resulting from death, po this organization. I underst espective agents, officers, o y participation with this orga	ersonal injury or property dan and this release is intended t officials, servants and represe	o discharge and release in adva entatives from and against any ar	may hereafter accrue to me as a nce, the Delta Pedalers Bicycle	
personal injury, death and/or heirs, executors, administrate	property damage as a cons ors, successors and assigns	equence of that participation. hereby agree to assume th		ka of bicycling, I, for myself, my Id harmless all of the persons or	
I ALSO AGREE TO WEAR A	PROPERLY FITTING U.S.	CPSC-APPROVED BICYCL	E HELMET ON ALL CLUB RIDE	S.	
			ONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT O SIGN IT ON MY OWN FREE V	THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY VILL.	
DateAge	Applicant's Signatu	ne			
Co-Applicant (Spouse) Signa					
If this application is for family of 16 must be accompanied to		le names and ages of all min	ors who might be included in clu	b activities. Any rider under the age	
Name	Age	Signature			
Name	Age	Signature			
Name	Age	Signature			
Name	Age	Signature			
Signature of parent or guardi	an (needed if applicant is un	der 18 years of age)			
Medical Information					
Emergency Contact			Telephone Number		
Physician's Name			Telephone Number		
Medical Insurance:			Group ID		
Blood Type					
Name		Type Name		Туре	
Name		Type Name		Туре	



# Please support our local sponsors:





# New Mecca Café

324 Railroad Avenue Pittsburg, California 94565 Restaurant: (925) 432-7433 Catering: (925) 432-2607



Commercial • Industrial • Retail

1420 Central Blvd., Brentwood, CA 94513 Phone: (925) 516-2206 Fax: (925) 516-1102 Email: Info@flaggbuilding.com



#### Jim McFarland

925-783-4297

www.thewheelpeddler.com



## Panama Red Coffee Company

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

www.panamaredcoffee.com