

Sacramento Wheelmen Club Newsletter



2022, Issue 1

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Event Calendar Report

The next Club Business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at 6:30 PM, via ZOOM. Here is the Zoom link:

Topic: Sacramento Wheelmen Club Meeting

Time: Apr 13, 2022 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85718421441?pwd=WjJmcWh5aE9qNzQ3S2pNNU90UkRyQT09>

Meeting ID: 857 1842 1441

Passcode: 121310

Meeting Agenda

1. November Minutes
2. Membership Update
3. Guerneville Plaque
4. Website transfer report
5. Voice of the Parkway Coalition
6. Storage Locker

Club Business Report

CLUB'S CHARITABLE ACTIONS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION

Although the Sacramento Wheelmen Bicycle Club has a healthy reserve, we are spending more money than we take in these days to cover basic expenses, which makes for a hot topic when it comes to club charitable giving as was witnessed during the November club Zoom meeting.

Mike Kersten wanted the club to give more than the \$500 budgeted for 2022. At the meeting, he argued that the club should give \$2,000 to the American River Parkway Foundation next year. That motion did not pass, but President Tom Adams promised a serious look at a larger club donation in 2023.

In other business, 2021 club officers were re-elected for 2022. Your 2022 club officers are Tom Adams, president; Debra Lebish, vice-president; Debbie Finley, secretary; Mabel Wong, ride director; and Bob Storelli, treasurer. They were nominated in October and ran unopposed.

In preparation for our annual Awards Banquet, Dan Anglim went into negotiations with the Dante Club prior to the November meeting. He got the green light to sign a contract for Saturday, Jan. 29. The Dante Club has raised its prices since our last gathering there in 2020. To stay within budget, we also voted to go with a more basic menu package. Dave Clifton's call for a banquet for vaccinated members only was also approved.

Mileage shirts were also an action item. The club voted to go back to long-sleeve shirts and left the fine details of design and material to Sandy Yarrow. Mileage shirts are given free of charge to members who ride 500 miles or more. The latest shirts are for miles ridden from Dec. 1, 2020 to Nov. 30, 2021. It's a budgeted yearly expense. Mileage shirts only go to members who ask for them.

Traditionally, November has been the month that Tim Koch makes his presentation for the upcoming Oregon Tour. This year, before the meeting he sent the membership a detailed email roughly outlining two tours in 2022. By January, however, we were down to one tour due to insufficient interest in one of them. Sign-ups are on a first-come basis. No deposit was required to sign up at the time of the meeting.

The tour this year runs from August 7 to August 13. The cost of \$180 per person is this low because you don't need to rent a truck in California, carry all the cooking equipment, or buy breakfast and dinner provisions on a tour with no camping. In reality, this is a more expensive tour because participants are responsible for the all hotel expenses and all the meals. This tour starts in Cottage Grove. Tim has provided tentative GPS route maps for every day of the tour.

Ride Calendar Report

Every Wheelie should have the pleasure of leading a ride. Not only does the ride leader select the route, destination, and start time, but they also earn respect and gratitude from the other members! It's a great way to get your ride in and be a giving club participant. And Mabel the Ride Director makes it so easy, everything you need to make it happen is already on the Wheelmen website (<https://sacwheelmen.wildapricot.org/>), click on the Rides tab then select Lead a Ride. Consider partnering with an existing ride leader to see for yourself how easy it is!

Travel Report

ZODIACS – Domestic Cycling Trips

Good Climbing Weather on Santa Cruz Zodiac

The 2022 Santa Cruz Zodiac during the last week of March turned out to be a rather chilly affair enjoyed by 22 club members. Sandy Yarrow and Steve Barre provided the routes. Sandy also took charge of the after-ride social and snacks, taking full advantage of the courtyard area at the Solares Hotel. Tom Adams and Steve Barre were the ride leaders.



The 20-mile Granite Creek/Scotts Valley loop on day one was a good workout with 1,489 feet of climbing. And that was the warmest ride of the week. At Pescadero on Tuesday, a cloud descended along the coast making for heavy mist at the start and temperatures in the low 40s. It didn't warm up as we went inland, but it got drier. Whether you did the 55-mile route with 6,147 feet of climbing or the 45-mile route with 4,347 feet of climbing, the cold weather precluded anyone getting too hot. At Alice's Restaurant on the short route, we gathered around propane heaters on the deck. The larger group on the long route also stopped for lunch.



Day 3 was a choice between going to Gizdich pie shop in Watsonville with Tom Adams or climbing up Eureka Canyon with Steve Barre. The majority went with Steve and enjoyed a wonderful lunch at the Summit Store. Tom Adams added seven miles on the route to the pie shop by making a wrong turn. Aside from a loop with an 18-percent grade (never again), the new pie route was very scenic with sufficient climbing for the climbers in the group.



On the last day, the true nature of this year's Zodiac came to the fore. Everyone chose to follow Steve up Empire Ranch, a ten-mile climb with segments at 13 percent. After 32 miles and 2,930 feet of climbing, we rolled into the hotel parking lot. Thank goodness it was another cold day.

Upcoming Zodiacs

The Guerneville Zodiac is happening from May 3rd through the 6th this year. As per the usual, the club is staying at the most charming accommodations in the area - Fern Grove Cottages. Reach out to Ride Leader Lesli Pletcher, leslipletcher@gmail.com, for more information about this Zodiac.

Do **YOU** have an idea for a Zodiac? It's fun to plan a Zodiac trip - as leader you get to pick a place **YOU** want to go, when **YOU** want to go... Is there a location where you've always dreamed of riding? Plan a zodiac! If you don't feel like planning a brand new Zodiac, no

TOURS – International Cycling

The European cycling trip is tentatively scheduled for September in Northern Italy. If you have been there, then you know that Italy is a treat any time of the year!

The next issue of the Wheelnews will include a feature article on the legendary Hotel Alexander in Gabicce Mare, Italydon't miss it!

Miscellaneous

MAY IS NATIONAL BIKE MONTH!

Giddy up! Sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists and celebrated in communities coast to coast, Bike Month is a chance to showcase the many benefits of bicycling – and encourage more folks to give biking a try. We can show the community how active we are by logging our miles for all to see. Go to <https://www.lovetoride.net/> to register, then Join the Sacramento Wheelmen **Group** (not team). We will compete with other groups and cycling clubs for the most miles rode – start logging your miles so we crush the competition!

The image is a screenshot of the 'Love to Ride USA' website. At the top, there is a teal header with the 'LOVE TO RIDE USA' logo on the left and 'The Bike Month Ride. Smile.' on the right. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ME, LEARN, SOCIAL, PRIZES, RESULTS, and INFO. The main content area features the heading 'Join or Register a Club / Group!' with a sub-link 'Learn more about Cycling Clubs and Groups here.' Below this are two teal buttons: 'REGISTER A CLUB / GROUP' and 'JOIN EXISTING', separated by 'or...'. An arrow points from the text 'Join a Group' to the 'JOIN EXISTING' button. Another arrow points from the text 'Join the Sacramento Wheelmen' to the 'JOIN EXISTING' button.

VOICE OF THE PARKWAY COALITION PUSHING FOR SOLUTIONS

In an effort to solve problems caused by illegal camping, The American River Parkway Foundation has formed a new coalition called Voice of the Parkway, and the Sacramento Wheelmen have an opportunity to join this political fight to save the parkway.

In 2021, wildfires scorched over 11 percent of the Parkway's 4,800 acres. The fires threaten park users, nearby homes, businesses, and wild life. Water contamination, garbage disposal, and visitor safety are additional concerns.

A letter dated Jan. 25, 2022, has been submitted by the ARPF to both the City of Sacramento and Sacramento County. The letter presents a list of demands to address the growing

concern of illegal camping on the American River Parkway. By joining the Voice of the Parkway coalition, the Sacramento Wheelmen would be endorsing these demands.

Upfront, the letter states: “The Parkway is in crisis. The environmental and public safety impacts of the growing number of incidents of illegal camping threaten the Parkway’s beauty and sustainability and are a hazard to communities, schools, and businesses that border the Parkway. This includes growing fire danger, diminished water quality, and hazardous materials resulting from intravenous drug use.”

Insufficient progress in dealing with these problems motivated the ARPF to form this coalition and submit 7 demands detailed in the letter:

1. A detailed plan by March 2022 to address removal of illegal campers from the Parkway.
2. Assumption of management of Parkway open space by the Foundation from Sacramento County Regional Parks.
3. Establishment and distribution of funding to restore the extensive damage done by illegal campers to the Parkway to date.
4. In the first 6 months of 2022, the County will develop a plan to mitigate the damage done by illegal camping on the Parkway.
5. Maintain healthy water for wildlife and humans.
6. Increase and maintain safety in the parkway so that it is a safe place for all and nearby homes, schools and businesses are protected.
7. Timely removal of refuse to reduce fire risk and contamination.

Among the details presented within this list of demands, the ARPF is calling for the removal of 750 illegal campers in 2022 and is asking the City and County to enforce ordinances and laws that are already in place, including camping and open-flame cooking in designated areas only. To read the letter in its entirety, use this link: <https://arpf.org/wp-content/uploads/ARPF-Demand-Letter.pdf>

The ARPF is looking for coalition partners to turn up the heat on County and City elected officials. Those in attendance at the club’s April meeting will see Parkway in Peril, a 13-minute video produced by the ARPF. Following that, we will entertain a motion to join the Voice of the Parkway coalition.

BIKE FRIENDLY BILLS

Have you ever wondered what our wonderful politicians are planning for us cyclists? The California Bicycle Coalition (“Cal Bike”) keeps track of bike friendly bills introduced by legislators. Go to <https://www.calbike.org/bike-friendly-bills-2022/> for a list of bills that Cal Bike is tracking for 2022.

THE CLUB'S STORAGE LOCKER – MOVING OUT?

The Sacramento Wheelmen is a club without a major fundraising activity but still storing the coolers, garbage cans, and other items which had been used for putting on the Sierra Century.

If we can figure out a way to function without the storage locker, we will be saving \$2,200 per year. Cutting that expense should put club revenue well ahead of club expenses, such as insurance.

For this reason, we will be discussing whether or not to move out of our storage locker at the April club meeting.

At this time, the locker is storing coolers, tables, a rolling stove top, and cooking and camping supplies such as paper plates and pots and pans used on the Oregon Tour. Supplies also come in handy for Zodiacs and the annual club picnic. The recent Santa Cruz Zodiac used one small table and two rolling coolers from the locker. However, a lot of space is being taken up by extra coolers and garbage cans that are no longer in use.

In a recent email to Board members Tom Adams, Bob Storelli, and Mabel Wong, Oregon Tour Leader Tim Koch suggested moving out of our storage locker. "I have a storage shed that will fit all the stuff that I need for the Oregon Tour and the Club Picnic," Koch wrote.

A storage locker has its advantages, such as 24/7 access to multiple parties who have the pass code and the key to the lock. It comes at a price, however. Whether or not we want to pay it or take Tim up on his generous offer will be discussed at the next club meeting. It is also possible that we will vote to move out of the locker. If we move out, we will need to give away or sell items we no longer use and/or for which we do not have storage space.

WHEELIES HELPING WHEELIES

On January 1st Tom Goodwin moved to the Atrium in Carmichael with the help of 21 Sacramento Wheelmen. Tom has adjusted well to his new home and wants to see any Wheelman that wants to visit: 5757 Cypress Ave., Carmichael, Room 218.

