



SPINNING CRANK

Newsletter of the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
and the Peninsula Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition

Feb-Mar 2006

Vol. 20 No. 1

Events and Speakers Coming to SVBC

Feb 9th*

6:30 pm No-Host Pizza

7:00 pm Program:

Major Taylor Cycling Club
(see pg 1 for details)

March 9th*

6:30 pm

Board Meeting (only)

All are welcome to attend.

*see pg 10 for meeting locations

Bike to Work Day 2006



May

18,

2006

Save
the date!

See pg 3 for more details!

Please Join Us

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition is a membership organization dedicated to the improvement of bicycling conditions for all Bay Area riders. Your membership helps us send a powerful message to those we need to reach. A membership form is on pg. 10. Thanks!

Information Sources

SVBC: www.svbcbikes.org
408/806-8582

SVBC email list :
bikes@svbcbikes.org

BikeBuddy
bikebuddy@svbcbikes.org

PBPC: www.penbiped.net
650/571-5830

PBPC email list :
pbpc@lists.svbcbikes.org

Incident Report Form-
[http://www.penbiped.net/
incidentreport.html](http://www.penbiped.net/incidentreport.html)

SVBC Winter Party Award Winners

by Anne Ng

Tom Ayres, Don Burnett, and Ellen Fletcher (in order of increasing years of service) were honored at the SVBC Winter Party for their many contributions to SVBC.

Tom Ayres joined the SVBC Board just a year ago, agreed to be secretary, and did an exemplary job. He was already a League Certified Instructor, and was involved in setting up bike education programs for both adults and kids. Tom received his Advocate of the Year award "For contributions as SVBC Board Secretary, setting an outstanding example organizing, recording, and collecting SVBC materials, and as League Certified Instructor, devising curricula and evaluations and presenting the results." Tom also happens to be our newest life member. Sad to say, he and his wife have moved up to Kensington, and Tom is retiring from our board.

Don Burnett spent more than ten years on the SVBC Board, serving in many capacities before retiring two years ago. He founded the Cupertino Bicycle Advisory Committee before serving eight years on the City Council. He continues to lead novice Western Wheeler rides and serve on a Water District Trails Committee. Don's Advocate of the Decade award was "For years of bicycle commuting, followed by years of advocacy as Bicycle Advisory Committee founder and City Council member of Cupertino, Board Member for SVBC, shepherd of novice cyclists for Western Wheelers Bicycle Club, and trails watchdog for the Santa Clara Valley Water District." Not to mention the fine slide show at the Winter Party and his life membership.

Ellen Fletcher has served as editor of the Spinning Crank for 13 years now, but her involvement goes back to the 70's with SVBC (actually SCVBA back then) and every other regional, state, and national bike advocacy group, and as a gadfly in Palo Alto who was elected to serve twelve years on the City Council. She was instrumental in establishing Palo Alto's model bike boulevard on Bryant Street, which was recently named for her. She organized and continues to run SVBC's very successful bike parking program for Stanford's home football games, as well as bike parking for Palo Alto festivals. She recruits volunteers to represent SVBC at commute

cont next column

February 9th Program

Ken Kratz will share with us the work of the Major Taylor Cycling Club.

The Major Taylor Cycling Club is an East Palo Alto non-profit organization promoting bicycle education and advocacy from Redwood City to Mountain View. MTCC works through youth groups, schools, and bicycling activities to encourage active community participation to better our environment and quality of life.

MTCC offers free community bike repair, an earn-a-bike program, and community recreational activities. MTCC also promotes alternative transportation using bicycles on a very practical and usable level. See <http://mtcc.us/>

Friends of Stevens Creek Trail

The Stevens Creek Trail consists of almost 4 miles of multi-use trail in Mountain View. It starts at the bayside of Shoreline Park and runs north and south along the creek almost to El Camino Real. As Highway 85 also follows the creek, the trail is located very close to the highway.

cont pg 3



www.stevenscreektrail.org
(Near Shoreline Sailing Lake, the Trail crosses Permanent Creek just before it enters the San Francisco Bay.)

Awards cont

and health fairs, and does the job herself more often than not. Ellen's Lifetime Achievement Award was "For more than 30 years of contributions to bicycling at the local, regional, state, and national levels. And for her years of service advocating for bicyclists as a member of the Palo Alto City Council, as a member of many regional transportation advisory committees, and as a Director of the League of American Wheelmen."

PBPC -----pg 7
~Please note NEW web address for PBPC!~

New & Noteworthy-

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SB1233 Repeal in Doubt-----pg 3
Bay Trail Gap Closer to Completion-----pg 6
Thanking Volunteers-----pg 6
Area Reports----- pg 4-6
Getting Caltrans to Fix Hazards----- pg 8

Better Cycling

Better Breathing

Better Living



Still Spinning

by Greg McPheeters
SVBC President

SVBC is cruising along with our new Executive Director on board. We're excited about putting on a fantastic Bike to Work Day event this year as well as pursuing a new focus on advocacy and networking in San Jose. We've seen a number of exciting developments in San Jose including the ongoing plans for the Guadalupe River Trail and the Amgen Tour of California Bike Race, but when it comes to basic transportation needs the City of San Jose lacks the same enthusiasm. It's a daunting task, but we don't see any reason that San Jose can't be as bicycle friendly as Palo Alto, perhaps even with an LAB Bicycle Friendly City Designation. If you can help please don't hesitate to contact myself or Corinne right away; we'll be looking for help with events around the Tour of California and Bike to Work Day in particular.

Executive Director Update

by Corinne Winter
SVBC ED

This has been an exciting two months for me as your new Executive Director. I've had the opportunity to meet with many of the great minds in the bicycle advocate community across the region, as well as get involved with some important local issues.

The issue of bicyclists on county expressways was resolved at the Santa Clara County level with the unanimous vote of the County Board of Supervisors on January 10th to support legislation that will repeal SB1233 of 2004. SVBC spoke for the need to maintain bicycle access on expressways at every relevant County meeting and in direct correspondence with County and State offices. Senator Simitian has now authored SB 681, and SVBC will be tracking the bill's progress at the State level.

As for our future plans, we are gearing up to have the best Bike to Work Day this County has ever seen! This is a fun event that gets people out of their cars and into our community. If you missed the winter party and didn't have a chance to sign up, please contact me if you'd like to be in on the fun.

Board Elections

by Anne Ng
SVBC Treasurer

The election of members to the SVBC Board of Directors was completed at the SVBC Winter Party December 10th. Jerri-Ann Meyer joins Ellen Fletcher, Greg McPheeters, and Anne Ng, who were reelected to two-year terms on the Board, along with Bob Eltgroth, Gladwyn d'Souza, Paul Goldstein, Jack Lueder, and Herman Wadler, who are continuing in the middle of their two-year terms.

SVBC Board Meeting Summary

by Tom Ayres
Former SVBC Secretary

Jan 06, 2006-At it's first meeting for 2006, the Board elected officers. Most officers from last year were re-elected (President: Greg McPheeters; Vice-President: Jack Lueder; Treasurer: Anne Ng); Jerri-Ann Meyer was elected to be the Secretary, replacing Tom Ayres.

Anne presented the final monthly treasurer's report as well as the annual report for 2005. SVBC finances are in reasonably good condition, emboldening the Board to increase the role of our Executive Director (Corinne Williams) to 40 hours per week for the time being. Continued work at that level will depend on her success in finding additional funding sources for SVBC this year.

Corinne has been busy learning the ropes as our new ED and attending important meetings. She reported on a recent Caltrans meeting, as well as on plans for Bike to Work Day other matters. She will be coordinating with Robert Raburn (East Bay Bicycle Coalition) and others on inter-county corridor issues such as the Warm Springs area.

Corinne presented a number of ideas for ways to increase our involvement in Bike to Work Day this year, hopefully to get more attention from cyclists, the media, and the public. The Board is generally in favor of exploring these ideas.

In other matters:

*SVBC will write a letter to thank Joe Simitian and others for their work on SB 681.

*The Board authorized purchasing a copy of Filemaker in order to update our database of members and volunteers.

*A Spinning Crank Committee was established, consisting of Ellen, Jack, Martina, and Corinne.

*The March meeting of the Board will be at Thai Basil in Sunnyvale, rather than at Round Table Pizza.

Jerri-Ann has been following work on proposed development on the Mayfield site, with respect to bike and pedestrian access issues. A draft EIR has been issued, and Jerri-Ann will draft a letter of comment.

Jerri-Ann replaces Tom Ayres, who served us ably as secretary this past year, completing his term despite moving to Kensington, north of Berkeley, in August. Ballots with candidate profiles were mailed to all members with their November Spinning Cranks, and 14 members who couldn't attend the party mailed in their ballots. A total of 62 ballots were collected, well in excess of our required 5% participation out of a membership of about 400.

Officer Guilty of Careless Driving

Canon City Daily Record, 1/6/2006



photo courtesy Shannon Bliss

Canon City Police Officer Doug Havens was convicted of careless driving in a June 2005 incident that killed cyclist Bill Bliss on Colo. 67. Havens, off duty at the time of the crash, was found innocent of the lesser charge of speeding.

Assistant District Attorney Cheyenne Ross built her case around Bliss' advocacy for bicycling safety and expert accident reconstruction.

The victim's longtime friend and fellow cyclist Russell Godfrey testified Bliss, a 69-year-old Californian, advocated and taught road safety to new cyclists. According to Godfrey, Bliss always wore a helmet and bright clothing, had triangle reflectors and followed traffic laws.

The Bliss family, who came from California and Seattle to attend the trial, disputed claims he was unsafe and said Bliss was an extremely accomplished cyclist.

"Bill has been bicycling for 36 years," said Bonnie Bliss, the victim's widow. "He has over 300,000 bicycle miles. He's a very proficient rider; he's done most of those miles commuting in urban traffic in San Jose, CA.

See <http://www.canoncitydailyrecord.com/Top-Story.asp?ID=2460> for more information.

No Contest Plea in Cyclist's Death

Palo Alto Daily News, 1/11/06

A motorist who was intoxicated when he struck and killed an elderly bicyclist in Palo Alto pleaded no contest and faces the possibility of up to six years in prison, prosecutors said.

Craig Borlik, a real estate agent, entered the plea to charges including vehicular manslaughter and felony driving under the influence in connection with the May 25th incident.

A sentencing hearing has been scheduled for March 3rd.

Borlik was arrested shortly after the collision that seriously injured 72-year-old Robert Beebe of Sunnyvale, who later died at a hospital.

Beebe was hit when Borlik ran a red light at Charleston and Wilkie Way in Palo Alto and was dragged 40 feet by Borlik's Ford Expedition.

SVBC Winter Party *by Anne Ng*



Live music by Larry Chinn and an outstanding Year-of-Cycling slide show organized by Don Burnett were the highlights of SVBC's fifth Annual Winter Party on December 8th.

Fifty three SVBC members (three of them brand new) crowded into Sunnyvale Round Table Pizza's back room for free pizza, entertainment, awards presentations (see pg 1), and annual elections (see pg 2) Larry sat back in the corner with his keyboard and kept playing the whole first hour as we milled about. Folks seemed completely engrossed in conversation and pizza consumption — until Larry paused for a sip or bite. Then spontaneous applause erupted. Many commented what a fine addition his music was.

John Brazil, San Jose's Bike/Ped program coordinator, showed us slides describing progress on various bikeway projects.

Don Burnett followed with photos that he had obviously spent hours taking and assembling. He chose appropriate titles and background music for each series, and using zoom, managed to make it seem almost as though we were moving along enjoying the lovely new trails and bike lanes, and also encountering the infernal obstructions.

Stevens Creek Trail cont from pg 1

The *Friends of Stevens Creek Trail* is a local community group whose goal is to raise community awareness and support for the completion of a trail in the Stevens Creek Corridor. Founded in December of 1992 to support on-going local government efforts, the *Friends* was incorporated as a public benefit non-profit corporation in March of 1993. This grassroots community action group is endorsed by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and by the Cities of Cupertino, Mountain View and Los Altos.

The *Friends* Volunteer Action Team runs community outreach and education programs, organizes tree plantings and trail work days, and raises funds for enhancements of the trail, as well as hosting the annual Trailblazer Race.

More information and the Trail map can be found at www.stevenscreektrail.org

To be part of the Trail Action Team or for more information contact: Friends of Stevens Creek Trail, McClellan Ranch Park, 22221 McClellan Road, Cupertino, CA 95014, 408/255-5780, 650/903-6067.

SB1233 Repeal in Doubt

SB 681, the attempt to repeal last year's SB 1233, which allowed counties to limit bike and pedestrian access to expressways, met unexpected opposition at the California State Senate Transportation & Housing Committee. As the Crank goes to press, its fate is uncertain. Sen. Joe Simitian introduced SB 681, and has been a strong ally in our attempts to restore bicyclists' rights. We are grateful for his support.

New VTA Bike Map

http://www.vta.org/schedules/VTA_Bike_Map.pdf

This PDF map allows you to zoom into an area of Santa Clara County to see the bikeways routes.

The map is available wherever there is a rack of VTA Bus maps and schedules as well as at Sunshine Bikes (Morgan Hill and Gilroy), and Palo Alto.

Individuals and bike shops can also request them by calling VTA customer service at 408/321-2300 and pressing 0.

Bike to Work Day

Join the Team Bike Challenge!

by Corinne Winter

Save the date! The Bay Area Bicycle Coalition will host the 12th annual Bike to Work Day on Thursday, May 18th. Bike to Work Day encourages local residents to try bicycling and is part of a continued effort to relieve traffic congestion, improve bicycling, and ease motor vehicle emissions in the Bay Area. There will be "Energizer Stations" in each Bay Area county on that day where you can stop by on your bike for refreshments, giveaways, bicycling information or simply to be 'cheered on' by fellow participants. Energizer Stations will be open during morning commute hours and some will even re-open during the evening commute.

Participants can register on www.511.org for Bike to Work Day and learn about Bay Area activities taking place all month long during May, National Bike Month. When you register you will automatically be entered into a drawing to win a grand prize!

As a new incentive to involve interested participants, local businesses, and community organizations, we are launching the "Team Bike Challenge" this year. This campaign and contest serves to encourage existing bicycle commuters to recruit their colleagues, friends, neighbors, and local 'honorary' figures to form a team to bicycle to work, school, errands, or play during the month of May. The team with the most trips made by bicycle by the end of May will win a grand prize! Go to <http://www.511.org> to learn more!

New Members

Campbell	Michael Hofman
Cupertino	May Koski
Los Altos	Carl Hagenmaier
Los Gatos	Anne Winter
San Jose	Leslee Hamilton
	Matt Thompson
Santa Clara	Benjamin Waters
Sunnyvale	Nick Rowen

Renewing to Life

Membership:

Paul Metz

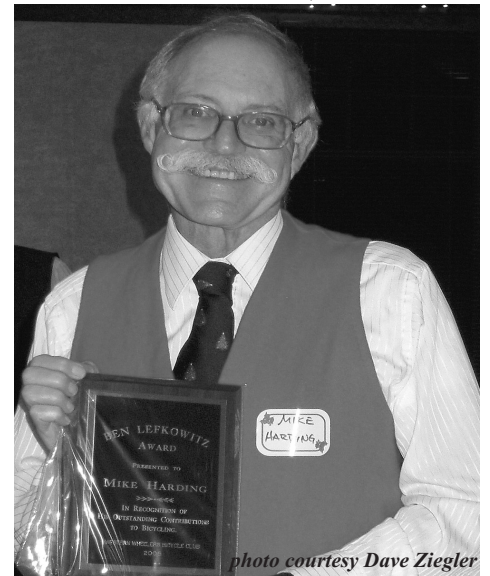
Thanks for Annual Donations:

Bay Area Velo Girls
Western Wheelers Bicycle Club

Mike Harding's Award

by James Porter

2005 President, Western Wheelers



Long-time SVBC member, Mike Harding, was the 2005 recipient of the Lefkowitz award for outstanding contributions to the cycling community. The Lefkowitz award is a legacy created by the late Ben Lefkowitz, an active member of Western Wheelers and a strong bicycle advocate. Ben bequeathed the club \$5000 in 1989 asking that proceeds from the funds be awarded each year to a deserving bicycle advocate in the Bay Area. In addition to fearlessly leading rides up Mount Hamilton through wind, sleet and cold, Mike served as the founding Sequoia Century Chair. Mike has also been an active member of the SVBC/Peninsula Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition for many years. He was instrumental in maintaining safe bike lanes on Hwy 92 near Half Moon Bay after the road was widened and has lobbied on behalf of cyclists for years.

Santa Clara County Area Reports

Campbell

by Laura Smith

Los Gatos Creek Trail---The Los Gatos Creek Trail Improvement Project is moving along but there have been a couple of glitches. While excavating, the contractor encountered an underground dam that caused an expensive delay. The east side of the old dam could be cut around but the west side had to be demolished. That pushed the placement of the new dam from December '05 to February '06. This could be a problem if the protected, migratory birds decide to roost on the old structure. Then the new bridge couldn't be placed until next spring. Hopefully, this worst-case scenario won't happen. Once the area is set to go, it is planned to pull out the old bridge the same day the new one is placed. This will minimize the trail closure to two to three days. Once completed, the Los Gatos Creek Trail will have a nice, new look. The switchbacks will be eliminated and the east side of the trail will have a new crushed rock surface.

Bike Lane Projects---The Harriet Avenue and Union Avenue Bike Lane Projects are complete and they look great.

Campbell Avenue Bridge Widening---The Campbell Avenue Bridge Widening Project is moving along slowly. This project will widen the Campbell Avenue Bridge where it crosses the Los Gatos Creek near the Campbell Park. The City of Campbell and the VTA have executed a funding agreement so the design work can begin. Other funds are being requested from the Approved Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) to help defray other costs.

Bike rack locations---The VTA is asking for suggestions regarding bike rack locations on public properties. Several recommendations were made: the Campbell Community Center, replacing racks near Building M and at two eating areas; and John D Morgan Park placing bike racks near the baseball field.

Cupertino

by Anne Ng

Council concedes to NIMBYs---Despite eloquent counter testimony, the Cupertino City Council has succumbed to the pleas of residents on Scenic Circle, a street that abuts the western edge of the Stevens Creek Corridor, promising them that the proposed bike and pedestrian access to Stevens Creek Park will not be allowed from their street. Thus cyclists and pedestrians who live west of the new park that will extend along the creek from Stevens Creek Blvd. to McClellan Road will have no choice but to access the park from one of those heavily traveled arterials. Like-

wise, kids will not have a pleasant and safe route to school crossing through the park.

BPC vacancy---David Greenstein, long time Bicycle Pedestrian Commissioner, has just been appointed to the Parks & Recreation Commission, leaving a vacancy on the BPC.

Please consider applying for the position. If you live or work in Cupertino and are interested, contact Glenn Goepfert, glenn@cupertino.org, or stop by City Hall to pick up an application form. The Commission meets the third Wednesday every other month. Thanks to David for his years of service and leadership.

Los Altos

by Curt Riffle

New BPAC Member---Randy Rhody is our newest member of the Los Altos BPAC, replacing Cathy Kearns. Welcome Randy!

BPAC Web Site---Thanks to Randy Rhody and other members of the community, a BPAC Web site is available for updates. It can be accessed from the City of Los Altos Web site at [http://www.ci.los-altos.ca.us/Boards, Commissions, and Committees](http://www.ci.los-altos.ca.us/Boards,Commissions,andCommittees).

Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study---The Stevens Creek Trail Feasibility Study that will involve the community in determining options for the Stevens Creek Trail through Los Altos will hopefully begin this summer or fall. Funding for the project has been included in the Los Altos 2005-2006 Capital Improvement Project list, VTA matching funds have been approved, and the Friends of Stevens Creek have also said they may be able to provide some financial assistance.

Bike Path Bridge over Adobe Creek---Design work is beginning on the replacement of the Hetch Hetchy bike path bridge over the Adobe Creek between Palo Alto and Los Altos.

Bicycle Transportation Plan---The BPAC has just completed an update of the Los Altos BTP. The previous version was approved by the City Council in April, 2002.

Milpitas

by Bill Reisinger

BAC Work Plan---The BAC work plan for 2006 has been presented and approved by the Milpitas City Council. Education and safety are the top priorities for the year.

Historic Tour---The BAC is reviewing the document: "A Bicycle Tour of Historic Places in Milpitas". This popular City tour needs updating since several physical elements have changed. The tour route remains the same but several landmarks have been removed or replaced.

Bike Race---The BAC is excited about the possibility of the bicycle race, Tour of Cali-

fornia, possibly passing through Mipitas. Rumor is that Calaveras Road may be used as a route into the City. Stage 2 of the race is scheduled to arrive in San Jose on February 21st, 2006. Information is available on line at: www.amgentourofcalifornia.com

Bikemap Online---The City's Information Services is testing a version of the Milpitas Bicycle Map online at the City web page. Additionally, the MTC 511 Regional Bikemapper has a map of Milpitas Bikeways. The most current version may be downloaded at: www.mtc.ca.gov/maps_data_/GIS/data:htm#cat2

Bike to Work Day---City staff and BAC members will staff three energizer stations for Bike to Work Day in May.

Morgan Hill

by Bob Eltgroth

The Morgan Hill Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee held no meetings in November or December, 2005. Meetings for 2006 resume on the 4th Thursday of the month at City Hall. One position on the Committee remains open for a willing volunteer. In April, other terms expire and will need replacements. See <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov/html/gov/boards.asp> and click on the Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee link for additional contact information.

Mountain View

by Jerri-Ann Meyer

TDA allocations---In early November the BPAC got approval of the allocation of our 2005/2006 Fiscal Year TDA funds and will now proceed with the projects receiving these funds. Projects include development of a new MTV bike map and implementation of our first bike boulevard route previously approved by the City Council in January, 2005.

Bike Boulevard---This first boulevard is east-west along Montecito and other streets and connects the east end of Palo Alto's Bryant Street Boulevard extension through to Stevens Creek Trail. At the November meeting the BPAC met with the consultant, who will assist with implementation. At the same meeting, the BPAC completed the route detailing and prioritization of the additional boulevard routes identified in the original feasibility study. This information will be presented to the 3-member Council Transportation Committee at its first meeting in 2006.

Stevens Creek Trail---At the November BPAC meeting, staff provided an update on the design and construction of the next portion of the Stevens Creek Trail in Mtn View. This is Reach 4, Segment 2, a 1.7-mile trail from Yuba Drive to Mtn View High School. This is comprised of multiple subsegments.

Santa Clara County Area Reports

The first sub-segment will provide a year round crossing under El Camino. Mountain View has received a \$264,000 Water District grant and a \$700,000 VTA grant for the first sub-segment from Yuba to the south side of El Camino. Staff expects this design to be complete by mid 2006 with construction taking approximately a year.

The second sub-segment of the trail is from El Camino to Sleeper Avenue. Mountain View has applied for a \$250,000 Caltrans grant for design of this sub-segment and for an \$800,000 California Resources Agency grant for construction.

Palo Alto

by Ellen Fletcher

Repaving scheduled---Those of you who ride on the Bryant Street Bicycle Boulevard will be pleased to hear that the street that must be the worst to ride on in Palo Alto and probably beyond, is scheduled to be repaved this summer. That's the block between N. California and Santa Rita.

Bikestation---In response to the information regarding the Palo Alto Bikestation in the December/January Spinning Crank, Bikestation Executive Director Andréa White writes:

"The remodeled PA facility will function essentially as before, with Palo Alto Bicycles as the day-to-day operator and Bikestation as a partner. The bicycle parking will still be attended during business hours by Palo Alto Bicycles staff, but members will now have the option to use the facility via the membership and access control system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week."

Thank you for the clarification, Andrea. The Bikestation is due to open this spring.

Charleston/Arastradero---Plans are progressing on the reconfiguration of Charleston and Arastradero roads to make them more bicycle/pedestrian friendly.

San Jose

by John Brazil

San Jose Bicyclist & Pedestrian Program

Amgen Tour of California---This February, the world's top road racing teams will be in California for the inaugural Amgen Tour of California. This eight-stage race will include a Stage 2 finish in downtown San Jose February 21st, and a Time Trial in south San Jose February 22nd. At the Stage 2 finish area, enjoy a Health & Wellness Expo and vendor booths. Volunteer opportunities are available. For more information, go to www.amgentourofcalifornia.com

Bicycling Skills Courses---Are you interested in improving your on-street bicycling

skills? Do you know someone who'd like to become a more confident and comfortable bicyclist? Register for a free BikeEd course in San José! Based on the leading national program and taught by certified instructors, BikeEd offers classroom and on-bike training for adults, and teens accompanied by an adult. BikeEd will make you a safer, more confident bicyclist. Courses are offered every two months. For San José course information, contact John Brazil at john.brazil@sanjoseca.gov.

Local Bicycling History---What's a velocipede? Did the post office really use bikes to deliver mail? What was the Garden City Wheelmen? For answers to these questions, check out History San José's exhibits in the new City Hall (200 E. Santa Clara Street). In the new City Hall Tower lobby, see a 162 year-old velocipede (the predecessor to the bicycle. Nearby, check out a 1904 trophy of the Garden City Wheelmen. In 1922, one of the Wheelmen, Clyde Arbuckle, set the national speed record. On the second story walkway connecting the new City Hall Tower and Wing, find the large 1919 photo of the Garden City Wheelmen and the Stockton Wheelmen. In the Wing's ground floor, see the circa 1910 Schwinn bike used by the San José Post Office. Enjoy!

Santa Clara

by John Sullivan

San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail---Although there are still some temporary plastic barriers along the route, the pavement, ramps and striping of Reach Two are essentially complete between Agnew Rd. and Hwy 101. The underpasses at Mission College Blvd. and 101 have also been completed. As of late December, there was a temporary chain link barrier across the newly paved trail just south of 101. It is possible to exit the trail at this point by heading north from the barrier along the top of the levee for about sixty feet, then carrying your bike down the embankment to an opening in the chain link fence which provides access to a parking lot on Octavius Dr. You might also want to carry your bike once you leave the pavement on the levee, since the dirt levee here is paved with goathead thorns. Still no official word on when the trail segment will be open to Scott Blvd.

Santa Clara Station Bike/Ped Crossing---Funding for a VTA design study of a bike/pedestrian crossing of the Caltrain and UPRR tracks between Brokaw Rd. and Railroad Ave. has once again been allocated. Work on this project was suspended several years ago because the crossing had been included in the

preliminary designs for the proposed BART station. Hopefully, this will lead to the completion of a tunnel or bridge without linking it to the uncertain schedule of the BART extension. Apparently, the appeals of numerous Caltrain riders and bicycle commuters have been heard.

Saratoga

by Jim Stallman

Plans for installing Bike Racks throughout the City are being prepared. Also, the City is celebrating its Golden Anniversary this year and will feature hiking, riding (horses), and biking tours this coming summer. Contact j.stallman@comcast.net if you have any input or questions.

Sunnyvale

by Kevin Jackson

Bike Plan---I'm very pleased to report that John Ciccarelli has been selected to work with us on updating Sunnyvale's bike plan. We'll be meeting throughout the year to discuss the details of our new blueprint for continued improvement of cycling conditions in the City.

Council approvals---The Council accepted two BPAC study issue proposals, but it's not yet clear if the assigned priority is high enough for Public Works to undertake them this year. The first is to catalogue sections of City streets that require additional right-of-way in order to provide safe bike accommodation, so this information will be reviewed whenever the adjacent properties are redeveloped. That way, acquiring the needed right-of-way will be part of the negotiations during the approval process, hopefully eliminating these deficiencies over time. The other proposal is to develop a policy for allocating street space that is based on objective engineering criteria, rather than the current ad hoc approach (which all too often amounts to little more than a popularity contest).

Caltrain bike lockers---There is still no solution to the problem of Caltrain's dereliction of their duty to maintain the day-use bike lockers at the station. The City's application for a grant to install a card-key system was turned down, so the best hope at this point appears to be organizing a volunteer effort to maintain the lockers.

Intersection hazard---A study to improve cyclist safety at intersections by reminding right-turning motorists to yield has ended with no definite conclusions. A survey of the City's experimental installations of signage and pavement markings showed little effect on motorist awareness -- so be careful out there!

Still to come---A few leftovers that were expected by the end of the year, *cont pg 6*

Sunnyvale cont from pg 5
but at this writing haven't quite made it:

- Phase 1 of the Calabazas Creek trail, and the Wolfe Road bike lanes from Homestead to El Camino, have been delayed due to the weather but should be completed soon (by the time you read this, with any luck).

- The Sunnyvale bike map update has been finalized. Distribution details are being worked out for the printed maps, and the electronic version can be viewed at the BPAC web site once testing is completed.

- Phase 1 of the Evelyn Ave bike lanes project (from the Mt View border to Sunnyvale Ave) was held up by the failure to receive an acceptable bid. The current plan is to combine this effort with Phase 2 (Sunnyvale to Reed), and hopefully have both completed by June.

Get involved---As always, we encourage those interested in cycling issues to consider BPAC membership, and visitors are welcome at our meetings (in city hall at 6:30 on the third Thursday of each month). Share your thoughts at <bpac@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, and you can call me at 408-BIK-TRTH for more info on any of this stuff.

VTA BPAC

by Jim Stallman

HWY 237 bike paths---The December meeting included a presentation by the San Jose Parks Trail Planner, Ives Zutty, on the status of one of the HWY237 bike paths. Ives has ended up with the bike path fronting the Calpine Power Plant in his lap after San Jose DOT abandoned it. Ives said that he is going to get the path fixed, which is good news. Prior updates had it being torn out. The rest of the freeway bike paths in north San Jose are either locked closed or have 4 foot tall weeds choking them at this point.

BPAC officers---The January meeting saw Marc Jensen elected to a second term as Chair and newly elected Herman Wadler as Vice-Chair. Marc led the campaign attempting to restore pedestrian and bicycle rights to the expressways after County Roads Administration got a change made to the State VC.

Salt Pond Restoration = Ecology+Flood Control+Public Access

by Jack Lueder

Greetings from the world of eco-biology, aka South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. This project involves 15,000 acres of former salt ponds in the southern half of the Bay (most in Santa Clara County), recently purchased for the Public. "Restoration" will take 50 years (wow!).

The major attention is to ecological restoration and preservation with Flood Control and Public Access in second and third places. As seen in the article about the Bay Trail Gap on this page, Public Access has significant benefits for bicyclists. For details : <http://www.southbayrestoration.org/>

Bay Trail Gap at Moffett Field Closer to Completion

*by Patrycja Bossak
Association of Bay Area Governments*



photo courtesy Patrycja Bossak

The San Francisco Bay Trail Project is excited to announce that traveling around San Francisco Bay on the Bay Trail will soon become easier with the completion of one of the most challenging gaps in the region — Moffett Field. The 2.5-mile gap on NASA's property has never been accessible to the public because of security and environmental issues. Instead, as part of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service plans to accommodate the need for public access by opening their outer levee.

The South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, the largest tidal wetland restoration effort on the West Coast, brings new opportunities for trail access along the shoreline in the South Bay and for completion of this critical gap. The Project's goal is to integrate restoration with flood management, while also providing public access, wildlife-oriented recreation, and education opportunities. The Project is restoring and enhancing a mosaic of wetlands, creating a vibrant ecosystem in the South Bay. This long-term restoration project managed by the partnership team of the Coastal Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Fish and Game, will develop in phases.

Phase I of the restoration construction proposes to open the locked gates in Sunnyvale and Mountain View to allow for continuous access along the existing outer levee, located off NASA's property. Opening the gates will provide a direct connection between Sunnyvale Baylands Park and Mountain View's Shoreline Park and the Stevens Creek Trail. Currently the levee has a soft surface making this path inaccessible during the winter season. The trail will need to be improved with a stabilized surface to accommodate year-round use. In the long-term, this alignment will shift to a new flood control levee that will be constructed as part of the restoration project

After completion of environmental review, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service anticipates opening the trail in mid-2008. Opening this key section of Bay Trail will allow public access for biking and hiking, and spectacular shorebird-watching opportunities. *cont pg 9*

Stanford Football Bike Parking November Volunteers

November 19

Kermit Cuff (his second game this season), Jim Manidakos (his 5th game this season), Celia Chung, Joe Wong, Chris & Tim Kohler (their second game this year), Anne, Sam & Nancy Ng and Larry Chinn (his 5th game this year).

November 26

Larry Chinn (volunteered at all six games this season), June Welsh (her 5th game this year), Jim & David Stallman (2nd game this year), Eugene Cordero, Eric Larkin, Jerri-Ann Meyer, Leslee Hamilton, Deborah Goldeen and Erik Gutfeldt.

Bike Parking Appreciated

*from Ray Purpur, Senior Associate Athletic Director,
Stanford University*

[Regarding our bike parking services at the Stanford football games]

"Thanks for all the time and work you put in for our great bike plan. It makes all the difference in commuting to our games. I remember when there were so many bikes locked to gates, trees, fences and golf carts. No more; they are all where they should be, nicely locked up in the corrals."

Freeway Corridor Bicycle Access

by Jim Stallman

Your involvement is needed for the following---

There may be movement in the Fremont Gap situation. K-rails have been moved into place, which can provide for a two-way Interim Bike Path along the shoulder like Caltrans installed in Oakland last year. (see pg. 4 of www.ebbc.org/newsletter/july2005.pdf).

The one-year anniversary of the HWY 87 Airport Section Bike Path occurs February 16th. San Jose gated off the Bike Path shortly after Caltrans had their ribbon cutting for the freeway project. SVBC has spent over \$4k in legal fees so far to no avail and hopes that a meeting with Mayoral candidate and Councilperson for the District, Cindy Chavez, will result in the City honoring the EIR mandated bicycle access — see www.svbcbikes.org/news/hwy-87.php

The San Jose section of HWY 237 has several Bike Path access issues that are languishing. The money that SVBC lined up to give to San Jose to fix one of the segments may have lapsed since San Jose failed to fix the path before the funding source (Calpine) went bankrupt. Contact j.stallman@comcast.net for details on the other segments to help restore access.

San Mateo County

Peninsula Bike & Pedestrian Coalition (PBPC)

PBPC meets the 1st Thurs. of every month 7 pm- Ladda's Thai Cuisine
2053 Broadway St, Redwood City, CA 94063

Steve Vanderlip, President 1214 Nadina St., San Mateo, CA 94402
steve1214@hotmail.com 650/571-5830

<http://www.penbiped.net> 650/571-5830

Please check our discussion list at pbpc@lists.svbcbikes.org for notices.

PBPC

by Gladwyn d'Souza, Vice President, PBPC

Web site---The Peninsula Bicycle Pedestrian Coalition (PBPC) web site is up. The domain name is www.penbiped.net

Why a dot net? Because we want to build a connected network of good bike roads. Well, that and we didn't have ownership of the dot org name. PBPC is looking for a web volunteer to handle the task of running the site and improving the hazard reporting system. Contact President Steve Vanderlip, at steve1214@hotmail.com

Hazard followup---Julian Carroll, Bicycle Coordinator for Caltrans District 4, fixed all our issues on the Holly Wipple trail, east of 101 in Redwood City. He's our hero for 2005. The bollards were reflectorized. This political football had quite a tournament before Carroll wrote a fix it request out of his discretionary fund and got a private contractor to tape the bollard! To our surprise, the trail was also swept. Way to go Julian!

Next up for Julian is Ralston/101:

1- At the bottom of the ramp going eastbound is a parallel grade installed by Caltrans to eat up bicycle wheels. Julian informed hydrology of the problem and said he would make sure it was taken out. I hope he meant replaced with the correct grate.

2- Going westbound the through lane after the crest is only 12'. There are two right turning lanes. The through lane should be 16' or have a pocket lane along side. Peter Vorametsanti (780-7388) in Redwood City, who is the lead engineer, said that Caltrans took the bike bridge into account, and so didn't design to accommodate through traffic here. There are two problems with this:

A) Some cyclists like myself prefer to bike on the direct route which in this case is the through lane on the overpass. It's much faster and goes places I want to go like downtown Belmont where I live.

B) The bike bridge has not secured funding and may never have funding. What was Caltrans thinking?

Fortunately there is enough room on the shoulder and the two right turning lanes to take a foot and half away from each, and add it to the through lane either as a pocket lane or a wide outside lane. Julian was to go out and

survey. Stay tuned.

Caltrain bike lockers---Penbiped wrote a letter strongly supporting the Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Program grant proposal for Caltrain Station e-lockers, submitted by the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board.

Bay Meadows II---As the details for this project were defined and the unwillingness of the City of San Mateo and the developer to address the serious bicycle deficiencies in this project, we can no longer endorse or recommend this project. As currently proposed, this project will eliminate a decades old, officially recognized, safe and very convenient regional bicycle transportation route, replace this with a dangerous and impractical route that is not suitable for experienced transportation bicyclists as well as less experienced riders or young bicyclists. In addition to our specific concerns for lack of bicycle provisions, we also have issues with the lack of suitable safe routes to schools, no provisions for transit options beyond Caltrain, a significant imbalance between the project's projected employment (6,000 to 9,000 new employees) to new housing (1,200 to 1,500), and a define reliance on automobiles for a majority of the residents and employees' transportation. For this to be a TOD project we expected a much better balance and encouragement of transit options, outstanding provisions for bicycle transportation, housing adequate for the expected employment. Since this project falls short in all these areas, we can not endorse this project. We will work with our allies in the environmental community who have supported this project to obtain a blueprint for TOD that can result in a livable City.

Safe Route To School---SRTS National Partnership published a resource guide for "Getting Started Locally,"

<http://bikesbelong.org/site/page.cfm?PageID=294>

Quote from Ivan Illich: What distinguishes the traffic in rich countries from the traffic in poor countries is not more mileage per hour of life-time for the majority, but more hours of compulsory consumption of high doses of energy, packaged and unequally distributed by the transportation industry.

Bay in a Day Returns

Bay Area Bicycle Coalition

Bay in a Day, the Bay Area's regional double century, is returning, on July 22nd, 2006. For those unfamiliar with the ride, it's unique in several respects. The ride completely circles San Francisco/San Pablo Bays, and passes thru eight of the nine Bay Area counties, missing Napa County by a few yards. It goes over two major bridges, the Golden Gate and the Carquinez. A consortium of Bay Area clubs and coalitions organizes the event, providing the opportunity for many people to take part and contribute. It is a very public demonstration of what bicycle transportation is capable of doing and spotlights the unity between the various clubs and coalitions throughout the Bay Area, all working towards a common goal.

This year, in addition to the Double Century, there will be a Century option. It will circle San Pablo Bay, using BART to cross the Bay, another first.

We need your assistance on the day of the ride on the Peninsula, in operating rest stops and providing support for the riders. Without your assistance, the event cannot take place!

The ride is a fundraiser for the Bay Area Bicycle Coalition (BABC), the umbrella organization of all the various county Bicycle Coalitions. BABC works on regional policy, funding and planning issues, with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, BART, Caltrain, and other regional transportation planning agencies. BABC has secured \$200,000,000 over the next 20 years for bicycle and pedestrian projects throughout the Bay Area, puts on Bike to Work Day, and is working to make sure that regional transportation policies are developed that improve bicycle access and make cycling a more attractive transportation alternative for more people for local trips.

If you can help, or have any questions, please contact Greg McPheeters <greg@svbcbikes.org>, 408/731-1217. It will be a most rewarding experience.

Varian's Commute Incentives

*by Rich Withers,
SVBC Life Member*

Varian, Inc, has a commuter incentive program. For every day that an employee bikes, walks, or carpools (with another Varian employee, or with approval, with someone else), Varian pays \$2.00. Employees print out and log a monthly commuter time card, checking off the days that they used alternative transportation and submit it at the end of the month. The bonus appears in a subsequent paycheck. *cont pg 8*

**Bikeshops Supporting SVBC
\$ by Name Indicates Discounts
for SVBC Members!**

Clip your SVBC Membership Card from the back of the *Spinning Crank*. Check with the store manager if your sales person is not aware of the arrangement. **Not all stores give discounts.**

Cupertino

Cupertino Bike Shop \$ A C P
408/255-2217
10493 S. De Anza Blvd. @ McClellan
Evolution Bike Shop \$ A C P 10%
408/252-5202
19685 Stevens Creek Blvd (near Vallco)

Los Gatos

Summit Bicycles \$ A C P 10% **
(*non sale bikes, no components)
408/399-9142
111 E. Main St., Los Gatos

Los Altos

The Bicycle Outfitter \$ A C P 10%
650/948-8092
963 Fremont Ave. @ Foothill Expwy
Chain Reaction Bicycles
408/735-8735
2310 Homestead Ave. @ Foothill Expwy

Menlo Park

The Bike Connection \$ A C P
622 Santa Cruz Ave
650/327-3318
Menlo Velo \$ 10% A 5% Bikes
Bike Rentals- Road & Mtn
650/327-5137
433 El Camino Real

Mountain View

Supergo Bike Shop \$ 10% A, 10% Bikes
2124 El Camino Real (except Specialized)
650/964-1796

Palo Alto

The Bike Connection \$ A C P
2086 El Camino Real
650/424-8034
Mike's Bikes \$ 10% New Bikes, 15% A P
650/858-7700
3001 El Camino Real
Palo Alto Bicycles \$ 10% A C P, \$10 off tuneup
650/328-7411 171 University Ave. @ Emerson

Santa Clara

CalmarCycles \$ 10% A C P
408/249-6907 2236 El Camino Real
Shaw's Lightweight Cycles
408/246-7881 45 Washington @ Newhall,

West San Jose

Calabazas Cyclery *
408/366-2453 6140 Bollinger Rd. @ Miller

* Member Shop/\$ Discount/A - accessories, C - clothing, P - parts

**County Homeless Get
Donated Stanford Bicycles**

Bay City News, 11/23/05

A thousand bicycles abandoned by Stanford University students are being refurbished and distributed to homeless people through the Cycle ReCyclery, a program developed by a 17-year-old Los Gatos high school senior.

Derek Beck, a student at Bellarmine College Preparatory, struck on the idea for refurbishing and donating bikes after spending the summer of 2004 working with InnVision, a local housing and service provider for homeless residents of Santa Clara

Getting Caltrans to Fix Hazards



by Eric Nordman

Over the years I have had multiple interactions with Caltrans regarding bicycle safety issues. Sometimes hazards are addressed in a timely manner but too often nothing happens. After a while I gained an understanding of what works and what doesn't. Below are some of the lessons I have learned.

a) One lesson I learned was to avoid contacting Caltrans by phone. On highway 84 west of Skylonda there was a block long section with a wide paved shoulder. Over many years bushes and tree branches had grown out making the shoulder unusable. Pruning this back would allow a safe place to let cars pass. I called Caltrans and left a message asking them to prune the overhanging branches. I waited a few months and called again. Finally after three failures using the phone I found that Caltrans had created a web site where one could post problems. I posted the problem and it was quickly resolved. I even got a message from the creator of the web site. I have used this site (<http://www.dot.ca.gov/contactus.htm>) multiple times and found it a good way to request simple fixes (potholes, pruning, etc).

b) Another lesson I learned was that some hazards will be corrected quickly while others require a long campaign. My commute takes me under the San Mateo Bridge. Many years ago work was being done on the bridge and a metal access stairway installed. The bottom of the stairway blocked one lane of the bike path. They put an orange cone next to the stairway to warn people that a large metal object was blocking the bike path. After the construction was completed the stairway remained. I wrote them a letter stating that a dark metal object placed in a car lane would never be tolerated. To my surprise the stairway was rapidly (in 2 weeks) removed. In 2003 under the same bridge Caltrans installed metal posts in the center of each lane (instead of on centerline). I wrote them a letter spelling out the hazardous condition they created and pointed out the relevant section of the Caltrans Design Manual that Caltrans should have followed. I expected that they

should have followed. I expected that they would rapidly correct their error but that was not the case. It took 9 months and three letters before the problem was corrected.

Last year I had another frustrating experience trying to get Caltrans to follow their own guidelines. On the bike path installed last year on the east side of 101 north of Whipple Road, There was no reflective tape on the bollards or pavement markings required by Caltrans guidelines. Installing reflective tape seemed a simple task. In April, I wrote a letter to Redwood City, which maintained the path. Gordon Mann of Redwood City quickly replied that the bollards had been installed by Caltrans. He promised to pass my request along to them. After a month of inaction I filled out the web site form and waited another month for action or at least a response. Frustrated, I emailed a third notice to the Caltrans District 4 Director, Bijan Sartipi in June asking for help in getting the hazard addressed. Again I received no response. Finally in September I emailed the Caltrans Bicycle Coordinator Julian Carroll (Julian_Carroll@dot.ca.gov). He quickly called me and let me know he would look into it.

Unfortunately that was not the end of my effort. After one month I called to ask what had happened. Julian was under the impression that the job had been completed. I guess I am not the only one whose requests are ignored. Finally, 7 months after the hazard was reported, reflective tape was wrapped on the posts. This probably took less than 10 minutes. I realized that it would have been easier to just fix the problem myself but I felt it was important to get Caltrans to fix problems they create.

Why was the stairway hazard fixed so much faster? I finally realized that one reason the stairway problem was corrected so fast was that it was a contractor error rather than an error by Caltrans. For unknown reasons hazards created by Caltrans are much harder to correct.

In summary, one can get hazards fixed by Caltrans if you are persistent. Keep records of the communications and periodically remind them that the problem is still not fixed.

Varian cont from pg 7

The company also subsidizes public transportation. They put a VTA pass on the back of my badge that will let me ride all of VTA bus and light rail lines. I haven't used it yet, but I might if I get caught in rain.

Varian also supplies ample conveniently located bike lockers. In any case, I am biking the Sunnyvale-Palo Alto route on almost every day that it doesn't rain, and I love it!



Associated Organizations

ABAG Bay Trail

www.baytrail.org
baytrail@abag.ca.gov
510/464-7900

Almaden Cycle Touring Club

www.actc.org, 408/446-2192

Alto Velo Racing Club

www.altovelo.org

American Youth Hostel of SCV

Art Carroll, 408/293-3787

Transportation

and Land Use Coalition

510/740-3150, <http://www.transcoalition.org/>

Bay Area Bicycle Coalition / BABC

(formerly REBAC)

Greg McPheeters 408/731-1217

www.bayareabikes.org

Bay Area Velo Girls

Lorrie Lown, lorri@velogirls.com

California Association of Bicycle Organizations (CABO)

www.cabobike.org, 650/494-8943

California Bicycle Coalition

www.calbike.org, 916/446-7558

Different Spokes

www.dssf.org/index.shtml, 510/339-2345

East Bay Bicycle Coalition

www.ebbc.org, 510/530-3444

Fremont Freewheelers

www.fremontfreewheelers.org

International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA)

www.imba.com, 510/528-2453

League of American Bicyclists

www.bikeleague.org, 202/822-1333

Northern California

Mountain Bicycling Association

www.norcamba.org

Exec.Dir. Patty Ciesla, patty.ciesla@norcamba.org

People Power (Santa Cruz)

Ron Goodman, 408/425-8851

Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers

(ROMP) www.romp.org

RIDES for Bay Area Commuters Bike Program

www.rides.org, 800/755-POOL

San Francisco Bicycle Coalition

www.sfbike.org, 415/431-BIKE

Skyline Cycling Club

www.sonic.net/~jps/skyline, 408/736-9858

Western Wheelers

www.westernwheelers.org, 408/257-0111

Bicycle Advisory Committees

Anyone is welcome to attend BAC meetings, to listen or offer suggestions on bike improvements. Contact staff ahead of time to confirm meetings. Complaints about dead traffic light sensors, road debris, bad striping, etc. should call the staff listed here or the numbers listed under "Road Hazards." It's advisable to confirm date and place prior to attending a meeting.

Belmont: Chair: Joan Dentler, 650/595-3145

Caltrain: John Brazil 408/975-3206, <john.brazil@sanjoseca.gov>

Caltrans: CBAC, meets in Sacramento. Staff: Ken McGuire, 916/653-2750, <Ken_McGuire@dot.ca.gov>.

CABO rep: Alan Wachtel, 650/494-1750, <wachtel@aol.com>.

Campbell: Meetings quarterly, City Hall. Staff: Matthew Jue, 408/866-2154 <publicworks@ci.campbell.ca.us>.

BAC chair: Herman Wadler, 408/866-9227, <hwadler@wadler.org>

Cupertino: 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 pm City Hall 10300 Torre @ Rodriguez. Staff: Glenn Goepfert <glenn@cupertino.org> 408-777-3354. Chair: Geoffrey Paulsen <geoffpaulsen@sbcglobal.net>

Fremont: 39550 Liberty Street, Niles room. Staff: Rene Dalton, 510/494-4535, <rdalton@ci.fremont.ca.us>, contact: Michael Graff, 510/713-7441, <michael.graff@pobox.com>.

Gilroy: 4th Tuesdays, Community Services Conference Rm. (6th & Hanna), 6:00 pm. Staff: Don Dey <ddey@ci.gilroy.ca.us>. Chair: Gretchen Yoder-Schrock, 408-847-6489, <gargajo@garlic.com > .

Half Moon Bay: Quarterly, Ted Adcock Community Center, 535 Kelly Avenue. Staff: Paul Nagengast 650/726-8260 <pauln@hmbcity.com>. Chair: John Hernandez 650/726-3024.

Los Altos: 3rd Wednesday 7 pm, Hillview Community Center. Staff: Larry Lind, 650/947-2624, <larry.lind@ci.losaltos.ca.us>. Chair: Curt Riffle, 650/949-0620, <curt.riffle@sbcglobal.net>

Los Altos Hills Pathways Committee: Chair: Ginger Summit, <gsummit@earthlink.net>, 650/941-0101, Staff: Henry W. Louie, <hlouie@losaltoshills.ca.gov>, 650/947-2516.

Los Gatos: Transportation and Parking Commission, 2nd Tuesdays 7:30 am, Council Chambers, Staff: Kevin Rohani, 408/399-5773, chair: Marc Jensen, <marcjensen@mac.com>, 408/358-2637 .

Menlo Park: 2nd Mondays, 7:30 pm, 1st floor conference room, City Hall. Staff: Rich Angulo, <rfangulo@menlopark.org> 650/858-3363. Chair: Peter Fechheimer <pfechh@aol.com> 650/ 854-5228.

Milpitas: 2nd Monday even-numbered months 7pm Milpitas Sports Center, 1325 E. Calaveras Blvd, Staff: Janice Nadal, <jnadal@ci.milpitas.ca.gov>;, 408/586-3291. Chair: Bill Reisinger, 408-946-1181, <billsinger@earthlink.net>

Morgan Hill: 4th Thursday, 6:15 pm, Morgan Hill City Hall Staff: Julie Behzad, 408/776-7337, <julie.behzad@morganhill.ca.gov>. Chair: Christopher Hauge 408) 778-1652 <chauge@techconcorp.com>.

Mountain View: Last Wednesdays 6:30 pm City Hall. Staff: Peter Skinner, <peter.skinner@ci.mtnview.ca.us>, 650/903-6311, Chair: Jerri-Ann Meyer, <jmeyer428@yahoo.com>, 650/964-7601

Palo Alto: Generally 1st Tuesdays 7:30 pm Arts Center Embarcadero at Newell Green Room (please confirm before meeting) Staff: Gayle Likens, 650/329-2136, <gayle_likens@ci.palo-alto.ca.us> Chair: Paul Goldstein, 650/329-1082, <marmot@stanford.edu>.

San Carlos: 1st Tuesdays 6:30 pm, Room 207, San Carlos City Hall. Staff: Parviz Mokhtari, <parviz.mokhtari@ci.san-carlos.ca.us>, 650/802-4202 Chair: Tony Panero, <tpanero@pacbell.net>, 650/786-0984

San Jose: 2nd Mondays 6:00 pm, 200 E. Santa Clara St. Staff: John Brazil 408/975-3206 <john.brazil@sanjoseca.gov>. Chair: Bart Thielges, 408/287-2278, <bart@landport.net>

Santa Clara: 4th Wednesdays, quarterly at 4:00 pm, Inspection Div. Conf. Rm., near Permit Center. Staff: Lorenzo Lopez, 408/615-3024, <llopez@ci.santa-clara.ca.us> Chair: Kevn Moore 408/615-2250

Saratoga: 3rd Monday 7 pm, 13777 Fruitvale Av., City Hall, next to auditorium. Staff: John Cherbone, 408/868-1200, <jcherbone@saratoga.ca.us> Chair: Jim Stallman, 408/867-9797, <j.stallman@comcast.net>

Sunnyvale: 3rd Thursdays, 6:30 pm, W. Conference Rm, across from Council Chambers, City Hall. Staff: Dieckmann Cogill, <DCogill@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us>, phone:408/730-2713, BAC email: bpac@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us; Chair: Thom Mayer, <thom94089@pacbell.net>, 408/734-3935

VTA BAC: 2nd Wednesdays, 6pm, Room B-104, VTA, 3331 N. 1st St, San Jose; Staff: Michelle DeRobertis, 408/321-5716, <michelle.derobertis@vta.org>, Chair: Marc Jensen, 408/354-3091, <marcjensen@mac.com>

Woodside: 2nd Wednesdays, 7:30 pm, Town Hall.. Staff Marilyn Dyer 650/851-6790 <mdyer@woodsidetown.org>. Chair: Susan Doherty, 650/851-9593, howiesusan@yahoo.com.

Sunnyvale Hotline

by Kevin Jackson

Have you ever felt your safety threatened because of dangerous behavior by a motorist? Chances are everyone who cycles in traffic will experience this all-too-common situation sooner or later. If there's no police officer around to witness the incident, do you have any recourse? In Sunnyvale, at least, the answer is an emphatic YES! Our Public Safety department has established a hotline for callers to report the offending behavior, and if the authorities determine the complaint is valid they send the registered vehicle owner a "courtesy notice" explaining the rules.

At first glance this may seem like a largely symbolic effort that is hardly worth the trouble, but the sad reality is that many mo-

torists are woefully ignorant of how to safely share the road with cyclists. A letter from the police describing the specific offense, along with the vehicle codes that apply, may be one of the best ways to correct these dangerous misconceptions. And our Public Safety liaison tells us that in cases where the reported offender is much younger than the registered owner (i.e., a child driving a parent's car), the "courtesy notice" to the latter has been remarkably effective at improving subsequent behavior.

If you have an uncomfortable encounter with a motorist in Sunnyvale, note the license number and, if possible, include a description of the vehicle and/or driver (the more information indicating a reliable report, the more likely Public Safety will be to follow

up). Even if you think your concerns aren't that significant, your report may be combined with others to show a pattern of bad behavior which can be cause for police action.

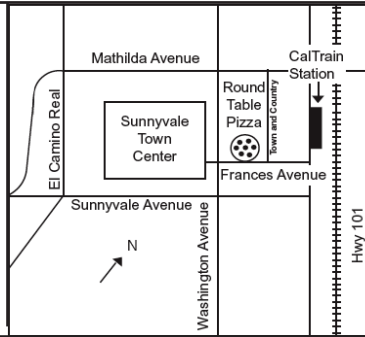
So, what's the magic number? In Sunnyvale it's 408/730-7109. This is such an obviously good idea that I call on our representatives in other cities to find out if they have a comparable facility. If so, please tell us about it! And if you don't, ask your police department why not?

Moffett Field cont from pg 6

For more information about the 500-mile Bay Trail visit www.baytrail.org. To learn more about the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project and to comment on the draft public access alternatives, visit www.southbayrestoration.org.

Feb 9th

6:30 pm No-Host Pizza
 7:00 pm Program:
 Major Taylor Cycling Club
 meeting site for General Meeting:
 Round Table Pizza 408-736-2242
 101 Town and Country
 Frances at Washington, Sunnyvale



March 9th

6:30PM
 Board Meeting (only) All are welcome to attend.
 meeting site for Board Meeting:
 Thai Basil Restaurant 408-774-9090
 210 Town and Country, Sunnyvale
 one block away from Round Table Pizza



SPINNING CRANK

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
 PO Box 831
 Cupertino CA 95015-0831

Place
 Stamp
 Here



SILICON VALLEY BICYCLE COALITION CONTACTS:

President	Greg McPheeters*	408/731-1217	greg@svcbikes.org
Vice President	Jack Lueder*	408/249-3267	jjlueder@comcast.net
Treasurer	Anne Ng*	408/257-6506	anneng@aol.com
Secretary	Jerri-Ann Meyer*	650/964-7601	jmeyer428@yahoo.com
Executive Director	Corinne Winter	408/806-8582	corinne@svcbikes.org
Director	Ellen Fletcher*	650/494-8943	ef@ellenfletcher.net
Director	Paul Goldstein*	650/329-1082	paul@svcbikes.org
Director	Bob Eltgroth*	408/859-4987	eltgroth@garlic.com
Director	Herman Wadler*	408/866-9227	hwadler@wadler.org
Director	Gladwyn d'Souza*	408-857-7347	godsouza@yahoo.com
SVBC	www.svcbikes.org	408/806-8582	
SVBC email list	bikes@svcbikes.org	(send a blank email**)	
SVBC Webmaster(s)	Kevin Cook/Thomas Metcalf		webmaster@svcbikes.org
BikeBuddy	bikebuddy@svcbikes.org		
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PenBike&Ped Coalition	www.PenBiPed.net	650/571-5830	
PBPC email list	pbpc@lists.svcbikes.org	(see http://penbiped.net/discussion.html to subscribe)	
Stanford Football Parking	Ellen Fletcher*	650/494-8943	ef@ellenfletcher.net
State Legislation	Alan Wachtel	650/494-1750	wachtel@aol.com

* indicates SVBC Board Member ** type subscribe in the Subject Line

ROAD HAZARD REPORT LINES

CalTrans, District 4	510/286-5598
CalTrans (drain grates)	510/286-6377
San Mateo County	650/363-4103
South SM Co.	650/369-7840
Atherton	650/325-4457
Belmont (FAX)	650/593-8394
City of Brisbane	415/508-2130
Burlingame	650/558-7670
Colma	650/997-8300
Daly City	650/991-8038
East Palo Alto	650/853-3100
Foster City	650/286-8146
Half Moon Bay	650/726-8260
Hillsborough	650/579-3800
Menlo Park	650/858-3490
Millbrae	650/259-2374
Pacifica	650/738-7348
Portola Valley	650/851-1700
Redwood City	650/780-7472
San Carlos	650/802-4204
City of San Mateo	650/522-7350
S. San Francisco	650/829-6650
Woodside	650/851-6790
Santa Clara County (North)	408/299-3126
Santa Clara County (South)	408/686-0605
service@countyroads.org	
Campbell	408/866-2145
Cupertino signals	408/777-1366
Cupertino pub wrks	408/777-3269
Gilroy	408/842-3191
Los Altos	650/948-1491
Los Altos Hills	650/941-7222
Los Gatos	408/354-6865
Milpitas	408/586-2600
Monte Sereno	408/354-7635
Morgan Hill	408/779-7271
Mt. View	650/903-6311
Palo Alto	650/329-2136
San Jose	408/277-5341
Santa Clara	408/615-3080
Saratoga	408/868-1245
Stanford	650/725-2453
Sunnyvale	408/730-7407
Sunnyvale Hotline	408/730-7109
VTA LRT Construction	408/321-5754

Support Bicycle Advocacy in Santa Clara County!



Join SVBC
 Today!

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

We occasionally trade mailing lists with like-minded organizations.

Check here if you do NOT want your name traded.

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
 P.O. Box 831
 Cupertino, CA 95015-0831

Please Circle: New Member Renewal

Level of Support	Individual	Family	Other
1 year	\$35	\$50	_____
2 year	\$70	\$100	_____
3 year	\$105	\$150	_____
Bike Shop	\$35		
Lifetime Membership	\$500		

Where did you get this Spinning Crank? _____