



## Coalition triumphs

### Cuesta Grade bicycle detour

In January 2002 the Coalition surveyed the existing bicycle detour in the Hwy. 101 Cuesta Grade construction area. Caltrans had signage up for the detour that was neither clear nor visible. The detour crossing at the north end of the project had no informational sign to direct cyclists back on the northbound shoulder.

The Coalition called a meeting with David Beard, Caltrans project engineer, requesting that the detour be better signed and that information be available on the Cuesta Grade project web site for touring cyclists. The new signs are up and the Coalition offered new photos to Caltrans for their web site.

### Changing lanes in Morro Bay

Last fall new bike lanes were striped on Atascadero Road in front of Morro Bay High School. The bike lanes were located closer to the travel way than the edge of pavement, creating an unsafe condition for bicyclists as auto traffic entered the high school. The Coalition teamed up with the Morro Bay Citizens' Bike Committee to bring this to the attention of the city. Capital projects manager, Bill Boucher, responded and agreed to move the lanes closer to the edge of the pavement.

In May the original striping was removed and new bike lanes were striped to increase safety in the intersection.

## Bike Fest 2002

### SAN LUIS OBISPO, 18 MAY 2002

There is a first time for everything and Bike Fest 2002 marked a number of firsts. It was the first time the newly-formed county bicycle coalition helped sponsor a major event—a pancake breakfast, followed by a community bike ride along the newly-paved, premier Railroad Safety Trail and continuing along the Morro Street soon-to-be bicycle boulevard. Bike Fest also featured a public bike test-track—and a vintage and classic bike show added to the culture of the event. Bike Fest was better than ever.

### PRE-FEST FESTIVITIES

A few hours earlier about 100 hungry cyclists attended the first coalition-sponsored pancake breakfast at Johnson Park. Residents drank juice and tanked up on Uptown's java while Elaine Simer and Tom Parks of Hostel Obispo flipped homemade sourdough flapjacks topped with organic strawberries donated by New Frontiers. Elaine and Tom must have spent hours preparing the feast.

Mark Grayson said a few words in remembrance of local legend Bill Roalman, then led the crowd along the Railroad Safety Trail with bells ringing and horns blaring. As the riders approached the plaza at the final intersection of Chorro and Monterey, a woman leapt out of her car jumping and cheering for the group. The plaza was filled and Bike Fest was on!

### BIKE CULTURE IN THE PLAZA

One of the most memorable events of Bike Fest 2002 had to be the experience of Richard Carroll, one of the many coalition raffle win-

ners. This gentle giant stands 6'9" tall. Mr. Carroll does not own a car and came to Bike Fest on his only form of transportation—a used bike that didn't fit him. Feeling lucky, he bought 20 raffle tickets for \$15. As the first name drawn during the raffle, Richard won an oversized Raleigh bike. Later he won a BOB trailer, then two tires and a shirt. Mr. Carroll is now well-equipped for his daily commutes.

Here's what you missed if you weren't there: live entertainment from the Mighty Croon Dogs in the amphitheater, a stunt show, vintage bikes, a bike swap, demo bike racks from Cal Poly's industrial technology department, fully-faired human powered vehicles (HPVs), prizes and a bike test track to ride everything on. More than 23 bike-related vendors brought many of our local industry folks into public view. Did you know the likes of companies such as Truvativ, BOB Trailers, Voler and Slime are local? Guayaki, another local favorite and supporter of sustainable products, was serving up the "good-vibes" iced maté. Bike Fest was a litmus test for next year's event, Velotopia 2003. The celebration brought together friends old and new—all with a shared vision of bike culture.

### VELOTOPIA 2003

We will plan for next year's event months in advance. We hope to bring back the Downtown Criterium (with the help of Ryan Burmaster and the Central Coast Cycling Team), have a bike parade, hold more family races, and organize some half- and full- century rides (including off-road)—along with events as diverse as "BOB Nationals," a bike fashion show and a bicycle film festival.

Do you have bike culture ideas you'd like to share for next year's celebration? Contact the coalition planning group: phone us at 805-788-2706, or e-mail [oslayer@rideshare.org](mailto:oslayer@rideshare.org). Get in on the fun early and help redefine our annual festival of cycles and cycling. Thanks to all who made Bike Fest a complete success. This includes our volunteers, sponsors, vendors, participants—and a **big** thanks to the staff at SLO Rideshare for the many sleepless nights of planning involved in pulling it all together.

**Raffle winner, Richard Carroll, with his newly-acquired transportation: a Raleigh bike to fit, a BOB trailer, and new accessories.**



Courtesy SLO Rideshare

# Out of the saddle

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bike culture is on the rise! If you are reading this newsletter and haven't yet contributed to the SLO County Bicycle Coalition, I encourage you to join or pitch in today. We are a grass roots organization and our success depends on you, the active cyclist—not about how many miles you logged this week or new trails you discovered, but about getting involved in the democratic process. I've talked with many members and citizens who have been discouraged by our local and county government. Let everyone know that as I work on bike and pedestrian issues day to day, I'm discovering that local and regional governments *are* responding.

Last month I received calls about cycling conditions on Highways 1 and 41. Two of those calls were about maintenance issues with Caltrans because the routes are state highways. I called Mike Juliano, a Caltrans maintenance supervisor, who explained to me that Caltrans *does* respond to the concerns of cyclists. He admitted to riding a bike himself every now and then—and clearly and openly explained the maintenance policies in question and emphasized a willingness to field and respond to bicyclist concerns on all state highways. I have met, and continue to meet, with council members, transportation planners, community planners, engineers and law enforcement agencies—all of whom are open to increasing the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians.



The Slayer family, from left to right, Henry, Zack and Oxo—ready to roll.

Our government agencies work for you and they want to hear from you. Public hearings are for the public. Regardless of what you experience during public comment, your leaders are listening. I encourage you to get involved. We *can* transform this county into a more livable community. When you experience an unsafe condition while bicycling, call your local public works department and then call the Coalition. Send an e-mail, fax or letter for a record. Send copies to your elected officials if you don't get a response. One phone call may seem insignificant, but combine that with ten others from the community, with public testimony, a few letters and e-mails, and you get results. A small minority can create quite an impact on local planning and decision-making. Maintain the right to ride.

—Oxo Slayer

## County spin

### BIKE LANES ON THE PIKE

Class II bike lanes are being included along the Pike in Oceano from 13th Street to Halcyon. In a cooperative project between the cities of Grover Beach and Arroyo Grande, and the county, the Pike will be repaved to improve drainage problems, lack of sidewalks, poor road striping and a lack of bike lanes. The project will begin construction this summer.

### COUNTY APPLIES FOR BTA GRANTS

The SLO County Public Works department has applied for two state Bicycle Transportation Account (BTA) grants for bike projects. Two projects were prioritized by the county Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC). Projects submitted include the installation of Class II bike lanes along Corbett Canyon Road north of Arroyo Grande from Deer Canyon Road to State Highway 227, and the installation of Class II

bike lanes on Vineyard Drive, between Bennet Way and Bethel Road in Templeton.

### ATASCADERO TO TEMPLETON CONNECTOR

The A-T connector project is moving forward slowly. SLOCOG has allocated funds for a "constraints analysis" on the proposed alignment. A constraints analysis is an initial study of a project to determine opportunities and constraints. The proposed connector alignments are constrained by Union Pacific (UP) Railroad, two creeks, Caltrans right-of-way (ROW) and equestrian access issues. The SLOCBC is following this project closely by working with the agencies and interest groups involved. The constraints analysis is due late summer 2002.

### NORTH TEMPLETON BIKE LANES

The county will be installing Class II bike lanes in Templeton this summer—from Highway 101 to Gibson Road.

## The Spoken Wheel

is published by the San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition.

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Thea Delay

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

1 August 2002

5 September 2002

12 noon–1:30 P.M.

Rideshare conference room

1150 Osos Street, Suite 206

San Luis Obispo, CA

Agenda will be posted on the slo-bike listserv one week prior to each meeting.

All board meetings are open to members.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

5 September 2002

(See related article on page 3.)

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wed., September 18, 2002

6–8 P.M.

SLO County Library-

Community Room

San Luis Obispo, CA

(See related article on page 8)

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To be announced

Printing of *The Spoken Wheel* is provided, in part, by a Motor Vehicle Emission Reduction (MOVER) grant through the Air Pollution Control District



AIR POLLUTION  
CONTROL DISTRICT  
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

# You're invited...

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION 5 SEPTEMBER 2002

Four of our nine board members are up for re-election this fall. If you are interested in becoming a member of the SLO County Bicycle Coalition board of directors, please send a résumé to the Coalition stating why you are seeking a board seat and what skills you have to offer. Please limit your résumé to

one page and send by e-mail, fax or snail-mail to the Coalition address (see mast, page 2). Interested citizens must be members of the Coalition and are encouraged to attend the election on 5 September 2002 at 12 noon during our monthly board meeting.

### BOARD MEETINGS

Board of directors meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, usu-

ally from 12noon to about 1:30 P.M. and are open to all members. Until further notice, meetings will be held in the Regional Rideshare office conference room, 1150 Osos Street, Suite 206 in San Luis Obispo.

Meeting agendas will be posted on the slo-bike listserv one week prior to each meeting.

## State of the State

### TORLAKSON BILL NEEDS LOCAL SUPPORT

SB 1555 (Torlakson) adds a \$5 penalty to the price of renewing a driver's license for those motorists with 2 or more points on their driving record at the time of renewal. This legislation will generate an estimated \$3,500,000 annually for walking and bicycling safety education programs and improvements. Assemblyman Abel Maldonado sits on the Appropriations Committee now responsible for approving the bill. The California Bicycle Coalition is

urging SLO County residents to contact Assemblyman Maldonado soon! See <http://www.calbike.org/leg/aertjune.html> for more info and support letter templates. Abel Maldonado, District 33 State Capitol, Room 4015, Sacramento, CA 95814. Or call 916-319-2033; fax, 916-319-2133, or e-mail <assemblymember.maldonado@assembly.ca.gov>.

### SAFER INTERSECTIONS ON THE WAY?

A CBC-sponsored bill, Assembly Bill 2521 (La Suer) would require new or replaced traffic-actuated signals to

detect bicyclists and motorcyclists. Jay La Suer (La Mesa), a motorcyclist, has encountered traffic signals that did not detect his presence. Many local jurisdictions use models that do not detect bicycles, thus endangering and inconveniencing cyclists who reach an intersection where the signal will not turn green. The bill passed the assembly by a 72-0 margin. With the bill now on consent again for its Senate Transportation Committee hearing, it is likely that only a veto by the governor stands in the way of AB2521 becoming law.

## Campus concerns

### CAL POLY: BACKGROUND

A quick glance at Poly facts: 56.4% of all faculty, staff and students live within five miles of campus. In a 1999 survey, 4% of employees and 7.5% of students bicycled regularly to campus. In a 1997 survey, 3.6% of employees and 14.5% of students bicycled to campus.

The Coalition is a member of the Cal Poly Bicycle Task Force addressing issues of bicycle safety and circulation on campus. The task force was formed to deal with increasingly unsafe bicycling habits of students and faculty. Bicyclists traveling at unsafe speeds and riding in walk zones have struck at least two Poly professors. Walk zones around campus were created in an attempt to allow bicycles but minimize pedestrian/bicycle collisions. The task force meets on a regular basis every quarter and has requested the following bike projects be considered for funding by the Cal Poly administration.

### CAMPUS CYCLING ISSUES

#### Via Carta pedestrian/bicycle conflict

This cross-campus bike route has no physical barrier between bicyclists and pedestrians and has the highest volume of pedestrian traffic on campus. While a two-way striped bike lane exists,

pedestrians walk in the lanes causing bike/pedestrian conflicts.

**Possible solutions:** Increase the width of Via Carta to accommodate both users. Paint additional icons and color-code the bike lane area. The Facilities Planning department also has plans to widen an existing sidewalk on Via Carta as part of the reconstruction of the Engineering East building.

#### Paved walkway between the Rec Center and the Health Center

Bicyclists ride on the sidewalk that makes a turn around the corner of the building. The walkway has railings on both sides making it very unsafe for pedestrians dodging bikes.

**Possible solutions:** Place bollards at both ends of the sidewalk that would still allow pedestrians and wheelchairs, but make it difficult for bicyclists. Create a bike path coming from off-campus to Perimeter Road, which would parallel the existing sidewalk where the violations are taking place.

#### California Boulevard

There are no bike lanes on California Boulevard. Bicyclists need a safe connection to North Perimeter. There is diagonal parking near the stadium, which makes it very unsafe for the

bicyclist when the cars are backing out. Students exit campus at the Business building by crossing California to the railroad tracks.

**Possible solutions:** Provide an extension of the Railroad Safety Trail, between the palm trees and the railroad tracks, connecting to a crosswalk and/or stop sign on California Boulevard near the Business building.

#### Bicycle issues solved with current funding

The historic "No Bike" zone in the core of campus was difficult to enforce. With the direction of the Master Plan and campus police, the task force decided to create a "Walk Bike Zone" to encourage the bike, but create a safer environment for pedestrians. Enforcement has been increased in the walk zones.

The task force receives numerous requests to move or add bike racks on campus. Although not a safety issue, the task force makes a determination and the Facilities Dept. moves the racks.

For more information on cycling issues on campus, contact Deby Anderson, Commuter and Access Services coordinator at 786-6680 or e-mail [djanders@calpoly.edu](mailto:djanders@calpoly.edu).

# Counter spin

## GOING THE DISTANCE

It's been pouring all night long. I call in the morning to see if the ride is still on. Looking at the patches of showers all over town, I'm in no hurry to gear up. The call is gratuitous. I know it's off. "Good morning," I say, ready to reschedule. She on the other hand is ready to go and rides seven days a week rain or shine. She commutes to school, takes her bike on errands and rides for fun. Of course it's on. "Just checking," I say. When I roll up to her house, she's waiting outside patient and cheerful.

On the Railroad Safety Trail she explains that about 10 to 15 riders regularly commute to school. "I've been the only girl riding lately," she says. We discuss the state of female ridership in San Luis Obispo. We both wish women were more visible in bicycling. We both wish more women would ride. We discuss the Coalition-sponsored bike club forming on her campus, of which she is the founding member, and only interested female student. "Mostly boys are in the club," she explains. If the club is successful it will



Oxo Slayer

**Safia Altman, bicycle commuter**

serve as a template for other campus bike clubs countywide.

As we near the campus, she is out of the saddle and pumping up the hill. Mallards float in the creek. Everything is sparkling wet. Birds are getting chirpy. It's a great morning to ride. A good riding partner always takes you somewhere you would not have been on your own. Today I would have been back

in my kitchen drinking coffee grumbling about unseasonable weather. We pull up to the bike rack and she explains, "Mostly boys are at the bike rack," and then adds, "I don't know where the girls are, perhaps they're all driving." Today she is the only one who rode. She struggles to lift her front tire into the bike rack that stands at least two feet taller than her head. Once in place she locks it, looks up and flashes one of the all-time greatest grins. "Thank you, Safia," I say. "Let's ride again sometime." I'd be lucky if she takes me up. She has been riding on her own since she was two. She started on a bike seat at 8 months of age. She waves goodbye and heads toward her second-grade classroom. I look over at her small bike, a purple Road Master, alone in the bike rack and feel a great sense of admiration. At six years of age, a model of bike advocacy and one of our youngest coalition members, Safia Altman is definitely going the distance.

—Zack Slayer

## Meet the board

### CURRENT BOARD MEMBER:

#### JIM AARON

#### Residence:

Cambria

**Occupation:** Sales executive for Video Action Sports

#### Years cycling:

Since I can remember. I was ten when I got a new Schwinn Sting Ray, sapphire blue, and what a beauty.

#### Cycling history

As a kid I rode my bike like a motorcycle, until I finally got one. I rode a Schwinn Varsity to high school and college, until it was stolen. When I first came to SLO in 1985, I had a Univega road bike. Later I traded it for some running shoes and a old Schwinn beach cruiser. I saw my first mountain bike at the Mountain Air warehouse and asked the owner, Wayne Patterson, if I could ride it—and that was it. I was a kid again, back on the trails where I used to ride my Sting Ray, though the woods, no cars; woo woo fun!

Several years later (1989) I founded the Parkfield Classic Mountain Bike



Phillip Novotny

Race, and was race director until 1999. The Cal Poly Wheelmen became more involved then, and eventually took the torch. Now the Wheelmen continue the excellent racing that we have in our own backyard each fall.

I've been involved also with SLO County and the Cambria Trails Committees since 1989. I've been in the bicycle industry since 1987, as a retailer, buyer, manager, clothing designer, web slave, and sales rep.

Phillip Novotny invited me to the first organizational meeting for SLOCBC, and somehow I became the interim executive director? Boy am I glad we found and hired Oxo! Seriously, I'm very pleased to turn over the drivers seat to Oxo. I think he's the right person for the job.

#### What do you ride?

Everything! I have several bikes, and am possibly one of the more unusual riders out there. I ride commuter bikes (cruisers) downhill (full-suspension, downhill race/free-ride), cross-country MTB (hard tail, full-suspension, and my beloved single speed), and I ride road bikes. My longest ride ever was 156 miles. I also ride BMX bikes with my kids from time to time.

#### What is your vision for the coalition?

I became involved after witnessing the lethargic pace of government and the lack of a voice for cyclists. As a rider that enjoys all forms of cycling, I realized that we are all one community as cyclists: not roadies or mountain bikers, but simply cyclists. Together we are a stronger voice. With our combined power, I believe we can get some things done. I'm also encouraged by the recent successes of land acquisition for public use (cycling and hiking). I believe in a boost of activism of cyclists all over the country to take our rightful place on the streets and on the trails.

My vision is to help create a SLO County with so much excellent cycling that it will become a blueprint for ecotourism and sustainable/livable communities across the country. In the next twenty years we will have the choice to choke ourselves with growth, congestion, and pollution—or we can preserve what we have, and build a better, more livable environment, which will allow growth without the negative effects we see now. Please join me in this quest.

—Jim Aaron

# Membership matters

## MEMBERSHIP

The Coalition has new membership arriving daily. Since our membership due structure was established in April of this year, we have received unwavering support from the cycling community. We are rolling forward in our two-year objective for 500 members. We still have over 150 memberships available for our founding lifetime fundraiser (expires Labor Day 2002). While our benefactors and founders are contributing significantly to the Coalition's vital first-year budget, there is as much or more influence in numbers. If you are reading this newsletter and cannot afford membership, call the Coalition or send us an e-mail and we will exchange a few hours of your time for a one-year membership. We want your support. A grass roots movement backed by our members is the real vehicle for change. Help us transform the SLO County region into a more safe and livable community.

## THANK YOU TO THE SLO BICYCLE CLUB AND ITS MEMBERS

The SLO Bicycle Club members recently voted unanimously to make a \$6,730 contribution to the coalition. The coalition appreciates the support the bike club has given the organization since our inception last year. A number of club cyclists have joined the coalition and we look forward to continuing this relationship of trust, faith and support. The club's contribution has been

earmarked for specific projects and programs. Recreational road cyclists have specific needs and the coalition has recognized those needs as part of our strategic planning for 2002.

We will continue to work on issues such as: Price Canyon to Ormonde Road widening, the Atascadero to Templeton connector, Hwy 227, Hwy 1, and repaving county roads with a "margin of safety" on every shoulder for bicyclists. We will be working with the club to map a countywide network of cycling corridors and will provide the club with monthly board reports to follow our progress.

## BECOME A MEMBER!

To become a SLO County Bicycle Coalition member fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter, or visit our web site at <http://www.slobikelane.com>.

## MEETINGS OPEN TO ALL

The SLOCBC board of directors meets regularly on the first Thursday of every month at noon. Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage members, not only to attend, but to participate. We are planning an informational general membership meeting for this fall, so stay tuned. For more detailed information about meetings, see pages 2, 3 and 8.

## NEW MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members since our

inception. If you have submitted membership and don't see your name we are still processing your application. Look for your name in our next issue.

## Benefactors

Jim Hannah, M.D. • SLO Bicycle Club  
Colby Crotzer • Judy Shakely

## Founding lifetime members

Robert "Red" Davis • John Donovan  
Elaine Simer • Sandra E. Taylor  
Damon A. Noller • Lara G. Romero  
Jean E. Anderson • Robert Zeuner  
Aileen K. Loe • Joe O'Donnell • George Griffin  
Cliff M. Morris • Celtic Contractors, Inc.  
Louis Zimmerman Family • Wes Conner  
John and Safia Altman • John Taylor  
Kay & George Birk • Diane Forsman  
Steven Hollenbeak • The Akey Family  
The Akey/Marler Family • Rod Hoadley  
Lisa Wallender • The Novotny Family  
Claudia B. Callwood • Bill Deneen  
Jim Harrigan • Greg & Mary Bettencourt  
The McBride Family • John & Eloise Goni  
Greg Notley • Olan M. Kaigel  
Mike Baughman • Dan Kallal • Jeanne Kinney  
Paul Reinhardt • David Arndt  
Matt & Rita Colonell • Russell Hodin  
Kathy Longacre • Kevin Main Jewelers  
Larry & Renee Oertel • Mathias Work  
SLO Parks and Open Space Trail Foundation  
Ted & Ester Aclan • Kenneth W. Hill

## Business member

Truativ

## Grass roots members

Robin Dery • Jay C. Johnson • Ernie Lawrence  
Theresa Sickmiller • Michael Collins  
Patricia Gehrels • Aaron R. Dodell • Jim Aaron  
Anne G. Kelly • Jack Carlson • Alison D. Kirk

## Bob Jones Bike Trail fundraiser



## CITY-TO-SEA HALF-MARATHON 20 OCTOBER

Get out your running shoes or your walking boots and join the team. We will be raising funds for the Bob Jones City-to-Sea Bikeway project. Money will go towards a campaign to educate landowners, gain public support, write grants

to obtain more money for the project and, if all proceeds as planned, toward construction of the path. Collect pledges from your friends, neighbors, family members or business acquaintances (a completed path will bolster tourism, thus directly benefit local businesses), or make a personal donation. Remember, just about everyone will benefit from a completed path: cyclists, walkers, etc. Don't be shy about asking for support!

The Bob Jones City-to-Sea Bikeway is a proposed Class I bike and pedestrian path. Class I bikeways are defined as "a completely separated right of way for the exclusive use of bicycles and pedestrians with crossflows [by motorists] minimized." So far only one section along San Luis Creek from Ontario Road to Avila has been completed.

## PERKS

Team members will be invited to join a group training run every Sunday at

10 A.M. and to a Pasta Potluck Party the night before the race. A number of prizes will be awarded to individuals raising the most funds! More importantly team members can feel good about bringing us one step closer to the completion of the Bob Jones City-to-Sea Bikeway. You don't need to be a serious runner to join the team. If you can run or walk three miles now, you can train in 10-12 weeks to run or walk the 13 miles on race day. See Hal Higdon's web site for a great beginners training schedule: <http://www.halhigdon.com/halfmarathon/novice.htm>

To join the team or make a donation please contact Mary at 541-3905 or [maryandrews@wildmail.com](mailto:maryandrews@wildmail.com). See <http://www.citytothesea.com/index.html>

Make checks payable to the SLOCBC City-to-Sea Fund (100% tax deductible).

—Mary Andrews

# The dirt: off-road trail news

## AUGUST 2001 POSTING TO 3CMB MEMBERS

The city is having a difficult time with cyclists poaching rides on Bishop Peak and in Reservoir Canyon. They are having significant trouble with “no bikes” signs being vandalized at both locations. Both of these areas are currently restricted to hiking only. If you want to challenge that restriction, city staff would like you to do it in a responsible way via open dialogue with them. Poaching these trails will not lead to getting them open, and aggressive vandalism of signs damages much more than the sign. Both make negotiations with the city more difficult. If you know someone who is poaching either area, try talking with him or her about the potential negative consequences involved with this action. If you know someone who is vandalizing signs, well, *you* think of what to do.

Note 1. It is extremely frustrating to try to negotiate trail access with land managers who are frustrated by vandalism. We go to great lengths to impress land managers with the idea that most cyclists are responsible individuals; repeated vandalism erodes these efforts.

Note 2. There are inequities in trail-use circles. Poaching by hikers is usually just trespassing; poaching by cyclists can (nearly always does) have broad impacts on relationships with land managers and owners. Like it or not, cyclists are often held to a different standard than hikers and equestrians. We have to learn to deal with that reality and get on with life.

## ABOUT THE 3CMB

We have at our roots a group of cyclists who came together out of concern about a proposed closing of Montaña de Oro State Park to mountain bikes. In 1987, amid rumors about the impending closure, we met with State Park staff and volunteered to work to repair erosion problems thought to be associated with mountain bike use on the trails. Since that initial contact, we've expanded our volunteer efforts to include many levels of trail maintenance and construction, and have totaled several thousand hours so far. As a direct result of our work, trails are still open to cyclists at Montaña de Oro.

We encourage low-impact riding and



A view from the Irish Hills Natural Reserve

stress the three C's of trail use: control, consideration, and common sense.

We follow land access issues and try to prevent problems from developing to the point of closure by working with land managers and by offering positive suggestions and ideas.

To get involved in trail building, maintenance and access issues contact Dave Arndt at 438-4631 or e-mail darndt@calpoly.edu.

—David S. Arndt

Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers (3CMB), San Luis Obispo, CA

## FROM THE SLO RANGER SERVICE

The City of San Luis Obispo Ranger Service wants the local mountain bike community to know about the newly-opened Irish Hills Natural Reserve. Tucked away on the western side of the city, this reserve is over 700 acres in size and offers arduous climbs coupled with technical descents. At this time approximately five miles of single-track and fire-road trail are open for multiple use, with plans for additional trails in the near future. The serenity and natural experience offered by the Irish Hills is simply awesome.

The recent issues of riding on closed or private trails are addressed in an article written by Dave Arndt. The ranger service strongly urges the mountain bike community to follow the law so as not to threaten future access in the open space. For more information or any questions regarding the city's open space, please contact the SLO Ranger Service. If anyone wants to become a city volunteer on his

or her own, either as a “trail lookout” patrol aide or for trail construction and maintenance, contact senior ranger Brandi Diffenderfer at 781-7302 or <bdiffend@ci.san-luis-obispo.ca.us>.

—Brandi Diffenderfer

## DOWN AND DIRTY ON THE TRAIL

On Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, many SLO County Bicycle Coalition members and other concerned citizens showed up at Morro Bay State Park to participate in trail work and maintenance for the spring **Chris King Trail Daze**. The event, sponsored in part by Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers (3CMB), component maker Chris King, and local bike shops, was a success with about 100 volunteers showing up to spend a day in the dirt making trails safer and better for all users.

The event kicked off at 8 A.M. with breakfast and orientation. By about 1:30 P.M. the group had completed the goal of reworking a tricky section of trail (including working in a heinous patch of poison oak!). The event ended with a fabulous barbecue and an “everybody wins” raffle. 3CMB leaders held a brief meeting, letting trail workers know of any recent information and updates.

Access to trails is one of the most pressing problems facing mountain bikers. The Chris King Trail Daze event, along with other 3CMB trail work days, give trail users a chance to come together to work responsibly in order to maintain a precious shared resource. By taking the lead, mountain bikers on the Central Coast can maintain a positive image of responsible trail use and advocacy that will help ensure open access for years to come.

—Shay Wotring



Trail rules

# Ongoing Coalition projects

Area/s	Route/s	Jurisdiction/s
<b>Regional significance</b>	Hwy 1 corridor (Hwy 101 to Monterey County line)	SLO City/City of Morro Bay/SLO County/Caltrans/SLOCOG
<b>Regional significance</b>	Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail	SLO City/SLO County Parks/SLO Land Conservancy
<b>North Coast</b>	Morro Bay to Cayucos connector	City of Morro Bay/State Parks
<b>North County</b>	Atascadero to Templeton connector	SLO County/Caltrans/City of Atascadero
<b>North County</b>	Cuesta Grade North connection	SLO County/Caltrans
<b>San Luis Obispo</b>	Hwy 227 corridor (South St. to Los Ranchos Dr.)	SLO City/SLO County/Caltrans
<b>San Luis Obispo</b>	Railroad Safety Trail	SLO City/Union Pacific Railroad/Cal Poly
<b>South County</b>	Bikes on Grand (Grand Ave. from Hwy 101 to Hwy 1)	City of Arroyo Grande/City of Grover Beach/Caltrans
<b>South County</b>	Price Canyon widening (Hwy 227 to Ormonde Road)	SLO County
<b>Ongoing programs</b>	Mapping of countywide bicycling corridors and targeted improvements along these routes	All jurisdictions/SLO Bicycle Club
<b>Ongoing programs</b>	Sinsheimer Elementary Bike Club pilot program	John Altman (club coordinator)/IMBA Sprockids Program
<b>Ongoing programs</b>	Velotopia 2003 event planning (Bike Fest)	SLO City, with county-wide events

## Call for volunteers

We need...

### OFFICE HELP

Someone to help at least two hours a week with office and administrative work—someone with a flexible schedule. Duties include running errands by bike; bank, post office, supply runs, etc.

### PHOTOGRAPHERS

Coalition members to take photos (high-resolution digital or print images) for our web site and newsletters. We hope to create an image database of cycling on the Central Coast, bicycling facilities (bike lanes, paths and trails), bike culture, events and inspirational people who ride.

### DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Coalition reps in Paso Robles, Atascadero, Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, Nipomo, Los Osos and Cal Poly. Ted Aclan

of SLO Switchbox in Grover Beach recently volunteered as our Grover rep. If you live in Grover, call Ted at 710-1294 to find out about projects, hearings and workshops. Responsibilities include: establishing phone trees, identifying most needed road improvements in the area and staying abreast of new projects or developments.

### BIKERS BALL EVENT COMMITTEE

A committee is working to produce our first big fundraiser/member appreciation party—to be held in early November. We hope this event will be the “grand event” of the year for all cyclists: a big thank you to our members and volunteers, to attract new members and donations to keep the momentum going. If you know a thing or two about hosting and throwing a party, contact us soon. We need people to contact local media, organize entertainment,

organize food and beverages, and staff the event. This is a good way to make friends and pay it forward in your community. **Just do it!** Today!

Contact Jim Aaron at 927-5807, or e-mail: <borntoplay43@hotmail.com>

### STORAGE SPACE

We need storage space near SLO: a barn, warehouse or storage unit to store refurbished bikes and materials for coalition events.

If any of these projects interest you, get informed and get involved. Do you know of a dangerous condition for cyclists or pedestrians in your community? Do you have a clever idea for a program? We are the clearinghouse for cycling in SLO County. Drop us a line or give us a call (see page 2 for contact information).

## Cycling contacts

### Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers (3CMB)

Contact: Dave Arndt, 438-4631

### San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club

Contact: Joan Peterson, 772-2704

### Central Coast Cycling Team

Contact: Ryan Burmaster, 541-1832

### SLO City Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meets 3rd Thursday March, June, Sept. & Nov. at City Hall, 7:00 P.M. Contact: Terry Sanville, 781-7178.

### SLO County Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meets quarterly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Flynn, 781-4463.

### Morro Bay Citizens Bike Committee

Meets monthly 1st Wednesday, Morro Bay Community Center, 5 P.M.–6 P.M. For information, phone 772-0874.

### Grover Beach Coalition representative

Ted Aclan, 710-1294

### Citizens Transportation Advisory Committee

Recommends local transportation projects and funding to SLOCOG. Open to the public. Pizza served. Phone: SLOCOG staff, 781-4219

### California Association of Bicycling

#### Organizations (CABO)

CABO meets quarterly, alternating between No. and So. California. See: <http://www.cabobike.org>.

### SAFETY CONCERNS

**County roads:** 781-5252

**City of SLO streets/roads:** 781-7190

**Law enforcement on county roads:**

California Highway Patrol (CHP)

So. county & coastal areas, 593-3300;

No. county, 434-1822

**State highways safety concerns**

Urban Affairs, 549-3318

**State highways maintenance concerns**

State Highways maintenance supervisor, 549-3349

**Caltrans District 5**

David Murray, bike coordinator: 549-3168

# Let your voice be heard. Join the SLO County Bicycle Coalition!

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Business (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Please write your checks payable to: SLOCBC and send to P.O. Box 14860, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406-4860. All donations are (501)(c)(3) tax-deductible.

What for you is the single most important bicycling issue in SLO County?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Membership dues

Grass roots	\$12	_____
Individual	\$25	_____
Family	\$35	_____
Business	\$50	_____
Founding lifetime indiv.	\$125*	_____
Founding life family	\$200*	_____
Benefactor	\$500 and over	_____
Additional donation	\$	_____
Total enclosed	\$	_____

New member     Address change

*\*Good until first 200 members or until Labor Day 9/2/02*

## Yes, I'd like to volunteer ...

3 or 4 hours/mo. (circle number of hours)

Help staff     Help with newsletter

District rep     Help with events

Education     Other skills: \_\_\_\_\_

## Save the date - General membership meeting

**WEDNESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER 2002**

**SLO County Library Community Room,  
6 P.M.—8 P.M., 995 Palm Street, San Luis Obispo**

Do you want to know more about the SLO County Bicycle Coalition? Join us for our first general membership meeting.

Our meeting will include presentations by the SLOCBC executive director, Oxo Slayer, and SLOCOG transportation planner Darren Brown. The Coalition will bring members up-to-date on county projects and programs.

SLOCOG will present a status of bike projects countywide. A question-and-answer period will follow the presentations. Families are encouraged to attend; refreshments will be served.

## Our mission, vision & values



### MISSION...

to transform San Luis Obispo County into a safer and more livable community by promoting cycling and walking for everyday transportation and recreation

### VISION...

See <http://www.slobikelane.com/aboutus.html>

### VALUES...

- public access to open spaces
- sustainable land use planning and urban development
- a healthy population and environment
- economic vitality
- an efficient transportation system that provides equal mobility for all

Photo : Riders on Morro Street en route to Bike Fest at Mission Plaza.



San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition  
PO Box 14860  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406-4860  
[www.slobikelane.com](http://www.slobikelane.com)