

# The Spoken Wheel

San Luis Obispo County Number 4 2003

## Bike Week 2003

**SAN LUIS OBISPO, MAY 10-18, 2003**

Bike Week 2003 has come and gone and we here at Rideshare hope all enjoyed the week. This year was a new experience for the rideshare staff, with the addition of a new Bike Promotions Coordinator to take on Bike Week, and the event taking a slightly different shape. This year we focused our efforts to be less "SLO-centric" and hoped to provide a fun group of events countywide. Bike Week this year began with Bike Fest being a two-day event, located both in San Luis Obispo and in Avila Beach. Starting it all on May 9th was a bike rally held on the Cal Poly campus with performances by the 'Perfection on Wheels' stunt team. An hour before this event was the beginning of the 24-hour roll-a-thon where the Cal Poly Wheelmen peddled all night and through the morning out front of the SLO County Gov. Center.

The Wheelmen with the help of Video Action Sports, who donated a BIG screen TV and about 48 hours of cycling videos raised funds for both SLOCBC and the American Lung Association. Saturday morning Bike Fest was officially kicked off by the finish of the roll-a-thon and another stellar show by 'Perfection on Wheels' BMX stunt team. We had a good group of about 30 kids who all received bike week 2003 t-shirts and an assortment of prizes from our local bike shops, A Better Bike Shop, Arts Cyclery & Foothill Cyclery.

Mid day on Saturday we also began our community ride to Avila Beach on the Bob Jones Trail. There were free hot dogs lunches and all the information you could take in at the Avila Beach Plaza. Groups such as the APCD, American Lung Association, League of American Bicyclists, Arthritis Foundation, SLO Rideshare, and our own SLOCBC were out with all the information to keep you healthy and safe while on your bike.



Avila Beach Plaza

With Bike to Work week free Jamba Juice was added to go with our free coffee. Jamba Juice was slammed on Friday's SLO bike to work day with just under 100 people enjoying their free smoothies. The pizza party in SLO at the mission plaza was also a success with Woodstock's pizza and drinks for all, and as usual the coffee shops were busy from 6 am on. We would like to thank all that came out and enjoyed the weekend, and all the organizations that helped in making BikeWeek/Bike Fest 2003 a success. See you all on the road.

— Tyler Wertenbruch

## Bike Happening!

The first Thursday of every month at 9:30pm, hundreds of cyclists converge on the Mission Plaza in SLO for Bike Happening! This June 5th marks the 3rd Anniversary of the event. Numbers have been well over 200 in recent months with the Anniversary in excess of 300! Always remember to bring lights, wear a helmet and obey all traffic laws!

## Workers Offered Cash to Get on Their Bikes

**Tue May 6, 2003 10:06 AM ET**

OSLO (Reuters) - Norwegian workers are being offered cash incentives to get on their bikes as part of a government drive to encourage pedal power and cut car use. The scheme, which also aims to boost fitness, started on Monday in parts of the country and will pay municipal employees about 40 cents for every kilometer they cycle while on business. "We want healthier employees and less sickness absence," Hans Ivar Soemme, leader of a "Healthy City" project at Sandnes municipality in southwest Norway, told Reuters. He said he did not know of any similar schemes elsewhere in the world.

Workers will get 43 cents for each kilometer they ride up to a maximum journey of 3.1 miles. The ride to and from work will not count. Meanwhile, an estimated 75,000 cyclists rode their bikes to work on Monday to mark the annual "Bicycle to Work" campaign, many stopping for a free breakfast organized along cycle paths. As part of a drive to make Norway's 4.5 million people healthier, the Nordic country will be the first in the world to outlaw smoking in bars and restaurants nationwide in 2004.

— Sterling McBride

### Coalition triumphs

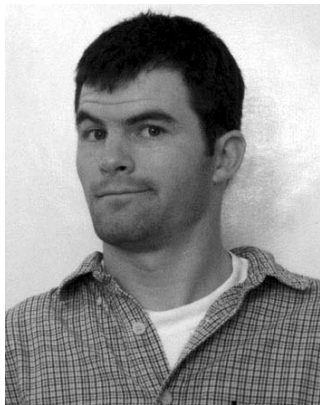
**Bob Jones Staging Area**

The derelict schoolhouse built in 1907 that sits adjacent to the Bob Jones staging area off Ontario Road will soon be renovated to a wine tasting facility. The project, known as the Avila Valley Winery, sought to access its property through the current Bob Jones Bike Path Staging Area, which is owned by County Parks. SLOCBC and County Parks saw this access as a bad idea since patrons of the wine tasting facility would be driving through a parking area where families and children mount their bicycles to ride down the bike path towards Avila. At a May 22nd County Planning Commission hearing SLOCBC spoke out against any access to the wine tasting facility through the county staging area primarily voicing safety concerns with children and parking issues. The Commission voted to restrict any vehicular access to the site through the staging area, instead a separate driveway will be installed from Ontario Road. Access to the schoolhouse will be allowed for bicyclists and pedestrians using the Bob Jones trail through a special gate in a new white picket fence built to replicate the original fence from generations past. By preventing vehicular access to the winery this decision has preserved the current level of safety and protected staging area parking and access for current and future Bob Jones Trail users.

# Out of the saddle

## MEET YOUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

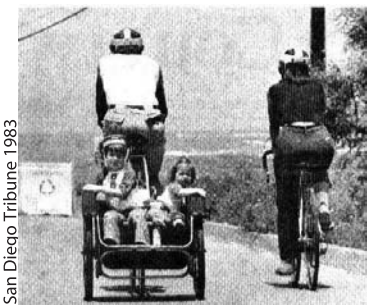
Greetings Fellow Cyclists! As the new Executive Director of the SLOCBC, allow me to introduce myself; my name is Joe Gilpin, and I am here to help promote all things that spin, roll, walk or trundle along in a sustainable fashion! Born and raised in San Diego, I first came to the central coast in 1996 to attend university at Cal Poly. My experience with bicycles began when I was a small boy. My father had one of the first bike trailers ever manufactured and would haul my sister and me all over the place, and even takes on longer rides for a better workout!



for excellence in engineering, the beautiful surrounding environment, and the friendly, active people that inhabit SLO County. I graduated in 2001 as a Transportation Engineer but questioned whether I was headed in the right direction. I began work with a civil engineering firm that was asking me to extend new streets into sensitive areas to support ever more endless suburban sprawl. This was not

what I wanted to do with my life. So, I packed a big duffel bag, boxed up my bike and headed over to England to pursue a Masters degree in Transport Planning that I completed last October. In England I lived in the amazing and breathtaking city of Oxford where 18% of all trips are made by bicycle!!! I found this to be a truly eye-opening experience, as people of all ages and walks of life were riding bicycles daily on very congested and cramped streets. I believe we residents in the central coast can eventually follow this example. After all, we have nicer weather, better roads, and an insatiable outdoor spirit! When I heard the SLOCBC was looking for a new executive director, I couldn't get my name into the running fast enough. I am really thankful and excited about being selected for this position and I look forward to meeting all of you in the near future. If you're a member, congratulations! If not, I strongly urge you to join our coalition. As our numbers grow, so too will the strength of our collective voice! As Oxo previously said, "Velorution is under way in SLO County! Join us!"

— Joe Gilpin



San Diego Tribune 1983

Somewhere along the line I began to participate in organized rides such as the American Youth Hostel Five Cities Bike Tour. I got my first jersey as a participant in the 1992 Tour de North County, and I was hooked. In 1994 during my summer break, my father and I rode a tandem from Oakland, CA to Bozeman Montana! That was an epic 1,200-mile ride that still is vivid in my mind today. In high school, I helped found the school bike club and by 17, had raced road, mountain and on the track. I chose to attend Cal Poly because of its reputation

## County spin

### An edited version of the California Bicycle Coalition's CALBIKE Report:

Caltrans Blueprint; Budget Alert  
The CalBike Report: Bike Culture and Politics in the Golden State  
A Publication of the California Bicycle Coalition (CBC) Volume 2, Issue 3, 2/11/03

New At CalBike.Org  
Governor Davis Releases Walking and Bicycling Blueprint. Here's what the state offers as a master plan for more and safer bicycling and walking:  
<http://www.calbike.org/blueprintintro.htm>

**ACTION ALERT** - Budget Crisis Imperils Key Caltrans Programs. Will Caltrans continue to support the efforts of cities and counties to improve planning for bicycling and walking?

Make your voice heard:

<http://www.calbike.org/budgetalert.htm> - then WRITE LETTERS!

### California Walking and Bicycling Conference:

October 15-18, 2003. Save the Dates! This is going to be a world-class event. Registration begins April 7.

Go to <http://www.calbike.org/conference.htm> for more information.

### Check out the California Transportation Plan at:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/osp/ctp.htm#CTP>  
This plan is likely to guide transportation planning and funding for years to come. It's in Phase 4, the Re-Draft Plan. Next, Phase 5, Submit to Governor, then, Phase 6, Develop Action Element.

## The Spoken Wheel

is published by the San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition.

PO Box 14860  
San Luis Obispo CA 93406-4860

Phone: 805.541.4860

Fax: 805.543.6847

[jgilpin@slobikelane.org](mailto:jgilpin@slobikelane.org)  
<http://www.slobikelane.com>

E-mail listserv:

[slo-bike@ihpva.org](mailto:slo-bike@ihpva.org)

Sign up at

<http://www.ihpva.org/mailman/options/slo-bike>

### SLOCBC ADMINISTRATION

Joe Gilpin, Executive director

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Erik Jahnz, president  
Robert Davis, vice president  
Shay Wotring, secretary  
John Donovan, treasurer  
Jim Aaron     Damon Noller  
Robert Zeuner     Mary Andrews  
Dom Morehouse

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Gail Camposagrado

### WEBMASTER

Tyler Wertenbruch

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Meeting on the first Thursday of the month at Noon at the 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.

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING

To be announced  
(Fall 2003)

SLO County Library-  
Community Room  
San Luis Obispo, CA

### 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





# Upcoming Meetings

## **SLO City Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)**

Thursday, June 19, 7-9 p.m. at Ctiy Hall in the Council chambers. Contact is Peggy Mandeville 781-7590.

## **San Luis Obispo City Council...**

holds regular mettings at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of each month in the Council Chamber of City Hall, 900 Palm Street. Other meetings or study sessions are

held as needed. You are encouraged to call the Office of the City Clerk at 781-7103 if you have any questions about City Council meetings.

# Packing Pavement

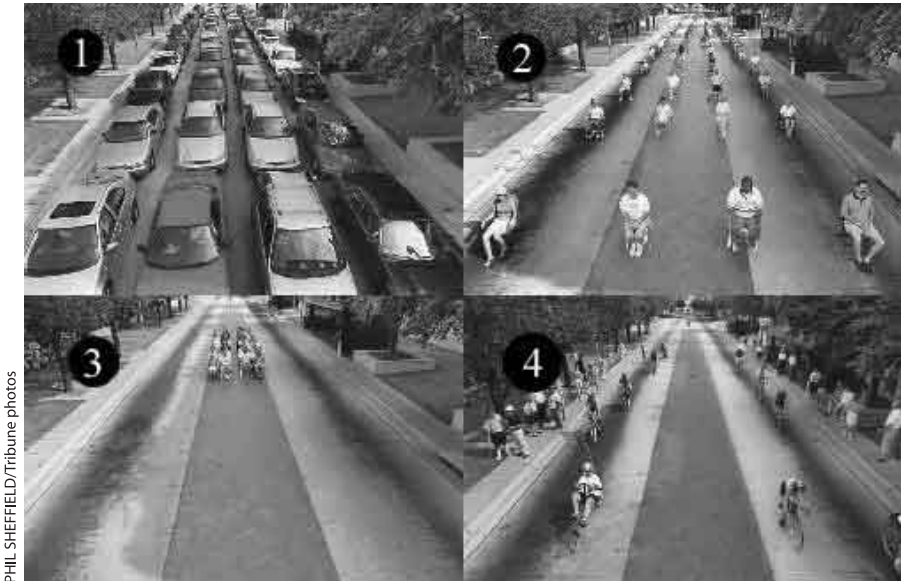
**The vitality of a city comes from its pedestrians, not its cars. Cars consume enormous amounts of space and radically change the landscape.**

*By JIM BEAMGUARD  
of The Tampa Tribune*

The irritation of traffic jams makes most of us enthusiastic supporters of either wider roads or fewer people, but rarely do we think about a third alternative: fewer cars. On a quiet Sunday morning, you think to yourself that very few people are out, when what you mean is that their cars and trucks aren't crowding the roads. There are probably more people out in their yards or on the sidewalks.

As the photographs on this page illustrate, what we call urban congestion is not too many people, but too many vehicles in too small an area. You can see about 40 cars ... perhaps a few more if you have good eyes ... jamming Marion Street in downtown Tampa, where their drivers parked them on a recent Sunday morning to put in pictures what is a surprisingly hard concept to explain. Their cars filled the entire block. Then each moved his or her car to a parking lot and returned with a chair to the exact spot where a car had been parked. You can see how far apart these people are, even though their cars were jammed as tightly as possible. Then 40 people rearranged themselves as though they were riding on a bus. Can you see that ridiculously small group of people sitting together? That's what a full bus looks like without the bus. Finally, they returned to Marion Street to pose walking and riding bicycles. Does the street look crowded? Not at all. It could easily accommodate many, many more. The vitality of a city comes from its pedestrians, not its cars. Cars consume enormous amounts of space and radically change the landscape. The highways and high-speed feeder streets become unpleasant places to live because of the noise, dirt and danger that increase along with the traffic. The idea for the series of photographs came from Ed Crawford, director of the Tampa-based Alliance for Modern Transit and Livable Communities.

Crawford showed me pictures from a similar series that someone made years ago in a European city.



PHIL SHEFFIELD/Tribune photos

It reinforced a quality-of-life theme that he has been spreading in public meetings, at civic gatherings and wherever else he can get anyone to listen. When he put the word out that we needed volunteers, he had no trouble rounding up more than 50 people from his own organization, Tampa Bay Freewheelers, HARTline and Bay Area Commuter Services.

The people arguing loudest against a better transit system complain that Tampa is already overcrowded and should spread its growth farther afield. I don't think it's the people or their homes that spark this irritation. I think it's mostly the increasing numbers of automobiles that have made the Tampa area among the most dangerous places in the country to walk or ride a bicycle.

Another argument against transit, especially rail transit, is that people don't want to give up the freedom of their cars. I certainly don't, and what's more, I won't. But I would ride a train or bus to and from work if the trip were faster and less costly than driving my car, and I think a lot of other people would too.

"Two-thirds of the surface of Los Angeles is used by automobiles parking lots and roads," says Crawford, who is determined that Tampa won't follow that sprawling example without at least considering an alternative.

One on a small scale, as in a suburban mall or a small town, a car is all that most people need to go wherever they please. But as a city grows and streets fill up, that freedom of mobility begins to diminish unless better ways are found to help everyone get where they want to go. The more I picture what total reliance on the car will mean for Tampa, the more I favor a train.

### **An exercise in street smarts**

The same 40 people who constitute a crowd in traffic create a new city scene when they get out from behind the wheel. 1) In the demonstration above, first they fill four lanes of downtown Tampa's Marion Street in their automobiles. 2) Then each trades the driver's seat for a chair. 3) Next they assume the pose of transit riders, clustering their seats in one bus-sized space. 4) Finally, they take their places in the urban landscape as pedestrians and cyclists.

# Attention all cyclists

## Cal Trans is here to help you!

SLOCBC provides a email address: (jgilpin@slobikelane.org) for you to forward all of your concerns regarding maintenance and safety issues that concern cyclists on all Cal Trans maintained roads in the county. Help us help you! Here are a few guide lines for gathering information that will help us help you. 1) Note the nearest mile marker on the HWY. Most CAL Trans maintained roads in SLO county have white mile marker signs designating the miles from county line to county line, or from the origin of the road leading to where it leaves the county. If no mile markers are available note the nearest cross street or landmark. 2) Note which side of the HWY the hazard is on. North or South, East or West. 3) Give a brief description of what the hazard is: For example, Large amounts of broken glass on HWY 227 one mile south of Price Canyon Rd. or Shrubbery encroaching shoulder on HWY One on the East side north of Hearst Castle. Thank you to the San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club for bringing some of these issues to our attention. We made the call to Cal Trans to bring these issues to their attention and we now have a conduit to feed them information to get these issues solved.

Keep in mind Cal Trans will not be able to respond to each issue immediately, but they did say that all requests will be added to their maintenance lists and dealt with in as timely a manner as manpower, and budgets allow.

## The acquisition of the Ahearn Property...

(which is at the base of the cuesta grade) would give mtn bikers an opportunity to access the east side of the grade via a cattle culvert under the freeway about half the way up the grade.

## An edited version of the California Bicycle Coalition's CALBIKE Report

The items mentioned below are subjects that should be of interest to all SLO County bicyclists. Check out the references to the URLs on the CalBike web site: <http://www.calbike.org>

Tue, 11 Feb 2003 16:19:20 -0800, from Chris.Morfas@calbike.org

Subject: The CalBike Report: Bike Culture and Politics in the Golden State. A Publication of the California Bicycle Coalition (CBC), Volume 2, Issue 3 February 11, 2003

## New At CalBike.Org

Governor Davis Releases Walking and Bicycling Blueprint. Here's what the state offers as a master plan for more and safer bicycling and walking: <http://www.calbike.org/blueprintintro.htm>

**ACTION ALERT** Budget Crisis Imperils Key Caltrans Programs. Will Caltrans continue to support the efforts of cities and counties to improve planning for bicycling and walking? Make your voice heard then WRITE LETTERS! <http://www.calbike.org/budgetalert.htm>

## California Walking and Bicycling Conference:

October 15-18, 2003. Save the Dates! This is going to be a world-class event. Registration begins April 7.

Go to <http://www.calbike.org/conference.htm> for more information.

## Caltrans Hosts Transportation Plan Workshops

Throughout February Caltrans is hosting public workshops on the California Transportation Plan. This is a final chance to provide input on a document that is likely to guide transportation planning and funding for years to come. Scroll up to the Public Workshop Schedule at: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tp/offices/osp/ctp.htm#CTP>

## Meet the Board

### CURRENT BOARD MEMBER:

#### SHAY WOTRING

#### Residence:

8 years in San Luis Obispo, originally hailing from Reno, Nevada. I originally came to the area, like many people, to go to Cal Poly. I am attracted to the size and priorities of the community—open space, a small downtown, and plenty of places to walk and bicycle.

#### Occupation:

Co-owner with husband, Justin, of A Better Bike Shop.

#### Years cycling:

I learned how to ride a bike as a kid, and like most people, stopped once I was old enough to drive in high school. I started riding more seriously when I returned from a year-long sojourn in Central America; at the same time, I also had gotten my first car. Bicycling came about as a matter of economics—I wasn't willing to buy a parking permit for my car at Cal Poly so I would ride to school or take the bus. I remember coming home one day after school and realizing that my car had been sitting in the driveway, undriven after five days, and this revelation made me think,



"Hey—I could really get into this!" To this day, I live in a one-car household and we try to ride our bikes most days during the week.

#### Cycling History

I don't have any exciting cross-country journeys or huge bike trips in my past. My cycling experiences are small but significant to me on a daily basis. I usually get out and ride two to three times a week (other than around town and commuting to work). I think because I am around bicycles my whole day in our shop, I don't want to get burned out on riding all the time. I also

swim three to four times a week, which is a complete escape from my daily grind and to complement my bicycling.

#### What do you ride?

I currently have a Bianchi Grizzly hardtail steel mountain bike, a Kona cyclocross bike that I use for road rides, and my new favorite is a Breezer Villager European-style commuter bicycle that I have been using for around-town.

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

My vision for the Coalition is part of my vision for our town, our county, the state and beyond—creating a sustainable community that encourages active, healthy living. This vision is what keeps me engrossed in our business; it is what I dream of the Bike Coalition facilitating through its mission statement and projects and campaigns. Most of us live in this area by choice, and we must consciously work towards the future and environment we want to live in.

— Shay Wotring



# Membership matters

## MEMBERSHIP

The Coalition now has 135 members! This is a terrific achievement in just over a year of accepting membership, however we still have a great deal of ground to cover to reach our 2004 goal of 500. The greater our membership, the more people we have behind us, and the larger our voice in county transportation matters. So, next time you're on a ride with friends, or talking to a co-worker, ask them if they have heard of the coalition and invite them to include their voice in local cycling and pedestrian related issues.

## 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 at the SLO Rideshare office, 1150 Osos St, Ste. 206. Our meetings are open to the public and we encourage members, not only to attend, but also to participate.

## Benefactors

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

## Buisness Members

Pacific Energy Co.  
Better Bike Shop  
SOJOE  
Art's SLO Cyclery  
Truvativ

## Families

Mark & Rita Colonell  
Lloyd & Rebecca Watzer  
The Hiltz Family  
Justin James & Shay Wotring  
Ly-Lan Lofgren & Pete Schwartz  
The Beaton Family  
The Boudreau Family  
Llyn & Troy Hunter  
The Wilson Family  
Rob Fordon & Jayma Newland

## Founding Lifetime Members

The Akey Family  
The Marler Family  
John Altman  
Jean E Anderson

## Founding Lifetime Members

David Arndt  
Mike Baughman  
Greg & Mary Bettencourt  
Kay & George Birk  
Claudia B. Callwood  
Wes Conner  
Colby Crotzer  
Robert "Red" Davis  
Bill Deneen  
John Donovan  
Marya Figueroa  
Diane Forsman  
John & Eloise Goni  
George Griffin  
Jim Harrigan  
Rod Hoadley  
Russell Hodin  
Stephen Hollenbeak  
Dawn Hutchinson  
Olan M. Kaigel  
Dan Kallal  
Aileen K. Loe  
Kathy Longacre  
Kevin Main  
The McBride Family  
Cliff M Morris  
Damon A Noller

## Founding Lifetime Members

Greg Notley  
Laura & Philip Novotny  
Joe O'Donnell  
Larry & Renee Oertel  
Paul Reinhardt  
Lara G. Romero  
Elaine Simer  
SLO Parks Open Space/Trails Fndn  
Sandra E. Taylor  
John Taylor  
Lisa Wallender  
Joel, Susan & Cole Westwood  
Robert Zeuner  
Randal La Vack  
George & Charron O'Neill  
Dale & Sharon Sutliff  
Erik & Dana Justesen  
Roger A. Malinowski  
BOB Trailers Inc.  
Owen Shea M.D.  
Al & Dale McVay  
Jeanne Kinney  
Mike Sallaberry  
William C. Brunette  
Mike Sherrod  
Nancy Reppert

## Grassroots / Individual

Too many to list! Thank You!

## Family Day at the Bob Jones Trail

This wonderful event was hosted by The Land Conservancy, and San Luis Obispo County Parks on Saturday, May 17th. Part of the event was dedicated to remembering the visionary, Bob Jones, who worked to help make the trail a reality. Land Conservancy officials unveiled an interpretive sign honoring Bob Jones that can now be seen along the existing section of the trail. The sign was created by his daughter Michelle and Alex McDonald of SLO County Parks. 26 organizations, including SLOCBC, dotted the existing trail offering



information and stamps for the children's passports. Hundreds of people enjoyed the beautiful sunny weather, which helped make the day such a success. SLOCBC distributed stickers, and other literature about the organization and spoke with several community members about local cycling and pedestrian related issues. Meanwhile, the children enjoyed enormous strawberries, and while munching, agreed that the coalition stamp was the best in their passports! See you at Family Day 2004!

## Computer Network Services "Green Bike" Project

Our "Green Bike" project was very simple to execute. We had tons of help and support from people in the community, which hurried along our success. Our first step was getting in contact with the SLO Bicycle Coalition. We knew that if we started with them they would lead us in the right direction. Jim Aaron was a great help, lending his advice and answering our questions. We first tried to have a bike donated from the police department, but after some thought we decided to buy a bike that would better suit our needs. BOB Trailers, Inc. of San Luis Obispo donated a trailer that is attached to the back of our bike, allowing us to haul things that we need for our on-site services. Mark Greyson, of A Better Bike Shop, was a key player in the project as well. He offered help with signs, accessories, and tons of

enthusiasm that quickly wrapped up our project so we could get our techs on the road. Computer Network Services had many goals going into this project. The first was efficiency for our business, using bikes to augment our transportation. We still drive cars to some appointments, but instead of spending time in downtown traffic or in search for parking spaces, we are able to bike to our client's offices faster than before. Second was to contribute to the environment by decreasing our contribution to air pollution and the need for foreign oil. Finally, the addition of bike transportation to Computer Network Services combined health benefits and fun for our employees while maintaining our efficiency. An additional bonus was to spread the word to other businesses about how efficient biking can be.

—Mary Andrews

# The dirt: off-road trail news

## 2003 National Bike Summit® Highlights

### California action alerts: Oroville & national forests

IMBA California Action Alert: Help Shape the Future of Mountain Biking in California. The following message outlines two important advocacy issues that California mountain bikers are asked to weigh in on. If you have questions or concerns please contact IMBA's advocacy department at [info@imba.com](mailto:info@imba.com).

**IMBA Alert: Help Save California's Lake Oroville Trails.** The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) needs your help to keep a popular trail system in northern California open to mountain bikers. We're asking you to write to land managers at Lake Oroville State Recreation Area and ask them to continue to support trail access for mountain bikers.

In spring 2002, California State Parks opened 17 miles of trail at Lake Oroville to mtn biking. Lake Oroville is located about 80 miles north of Sacramento in the Sierra foothills. Since then, hikers, cyclists and equestrians have shared the trail system with no significant user conflicts. Unfortunately, a few vocal equestrians are trying to persuade land agencies managing the property to close the trails to bicycles.

California State Parks management has pledged their commitment to IMBA to provide more great mountain bicycling opportunities throughout the state. Continuing access at Lake Oroville is important because it will lay the groundwork for more mountain bike trail opportunities in many other California State Parks. As such, this is an issue that affects everyone who rides in California.

It's important that mountain bicyclists write a letter supporting mountain bicycling at the park. Please write or FAX your letter by March 3 to:

Eva Begley, Ph.D.  
Department of Water Resources  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 620  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 653-8250

Take the time to comment today. It will only take a few minutes, and can definitely make a difference. Local equestrians were able to initiate this potential closure in the first place through a flood of letters. We can counter by doing the same. Include a personal perspective why you'd like to see mountain bike access continue in Lake Oroville State Recreation Area. Also consider using the following points in your letter:

At Lake Oroville, California State Parks coordinated a public process where hikers, equestrians, bicyclists and other stakeholders had input. Based on this feedback, California State Parks determined that trails should include cyclists. The fact that a few people disagree with the process does not justify rejecting the decisions that were made.

- The California Recreational Trails Committee unanimously supported the decision to make trails at Lake Oroville multi-use.

- California State Parks has had a long, successful experience with trail recreation, including mountain biking.

- Mountain bicycling is a sustainable, environmentally sound type of trail use. Trail erosion can be effectively reduced by proper trail construction and maintenance.

- People of all ages enjoy mountain biking. Mountain biking is more than good exercise. It provides an opportunity for nature study and appreciation, and can be enjoyed for a lifetime.
- California is home to more than two million mountain bikers.

For more information and a sample letter please visit:  
[http://www.imba.com/news/action\\_alerts/01\\_03/01\\_24\\_california.html](http://www.imba.com/news/action_alerts/01_03/01_24_california.html)

For more information email IMBA Northern California representatives Cathy and Jim Haagen-Smit at [jimhs@jps.net](mailto:jimhs@jps.net).

**IMBA Alert: Help Shape Mountain Biking's Future in California Forests.** IMBA and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) need your assistance in planning the future of Southern California Forests. The Forest Service is hosting a series of public meetings to solicit feedback on six preliminary alternatives designed to manage Southern California forests. California mountain bikers are invited to attend these meetings.

These management plans will specify where bicyclists can and cannot ride in four separate USFS forests—Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, San Bernardino—for the next 15 years. It's critical that local mountain bikers attend the meetings and make sure the Forest Service understands cyclist's needs in the various areas. Opponents of mountain biking will lobby to severely restrict access on these public lands.

Twenty-four open house meetings are scheduled during February and March to discuss preliminary alternatives. A schedule of meetings in your area is available on the web at:  
<http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/scss/workshop2003.htm>.  
Details and maps of the various alternatives will be available at the meetings.

Comments from the meetings will be used by the Forest Service to refine the alternatives and create draft Forest Plans. In Fall 2003, there will be an opportunity to review and comment on the draft Forest Plans and accompanying draft Environmental Impact Statements. The final plan will have implications for proposed Wilderness in the forests as well as on recreation and riding in general.

To help understand the process visit:  
<http://www.r5.fs.fed.us/scss/index.html#bypass>  
Of the six alternatives, Alternative 1 suggests no change from the status quo and continues current uses and management direction. On first take, Alternatives 3 and 6 seem to be the most restrictive to recreational use.

For more information please contact IMBA Board Member and California advocate Jim Hasenauer at: [imbajim@aol.com](mailto:imbajim@aol.com) or IMBA's senior national policy advisor Gary Sprung at [gary@imba.com](mailto:gary@imba.com).

March 5-7 in Washington, DC,

- Reauthorization of TEA-21 and other critical education and advocacy issues. As Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) said, "I don't think a national movement with more trajectory and momentum with a more diverse group has ever come together this quickly."

- Participants met with 90 Senators and over 300 Rep or their staffs to urge Congress to ensure that the reauthorization of the federal transportation bill focuses on supporting a balanced transportation system that embraces bicycling. The Summit brought together nearly 400 bicyclists from 47 states and abroad, representing the worlds of advocacy, industry, transportation and public health to share important concerns and best practices and educate Congress. Overall participation in the 2003 Summit grew by 45% from the 2002 Summit; bike industry participation more than doubled.

- Among the Summit participants was three-time Tour de France champion Greg LeMond, who also took part in the Congressional Bike Caucus Ride that toured major sites on March 7, and Linda Armstrong Kelly, mother of four-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong. Mrs. Armstrong Kelly was also among the featured speakers, who included Senator Jim Jeffords (I-VT), Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), Congressman James Oberstar (D-MN), Dr. Jeffrey W. Runge, Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and John Burke, President of Trek Bicycle Corporation, President of Bikes Belong Coalition, and a member of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

- Summit participants urged their Members of Congress to ensure that the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), which authorizes over \$200 billion in support for transportation, including bicycling projects, provides for a balanced transportation system that embraces bicycling by:

- .. Strengthening Transportation Enhancements, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, Recreational Trails, and other TEA-21 programs.

- .. Creating a bicycle-friendly transportation system.

- .. Providing a Safe Routes to School program to promote bicycling and walking to school. In addition, Members were also encouraged to:

- .. Support the Bicycle Commuter Act, introduced by Representatives Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and Mark Foley (R-FL), to give people who bike to work the same financial incentives as those who use transit or participate in a qualified parking plan under the Transportation Fringe Benefit.

- ..Support the Conserve By Bike Act, introduced by Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Susan Collins (R-ME), to promote energy conservation and improve public health.

- ..Join the Congressional Bike Caucus or the Senate Bike Caucus.

The League is still tallying the Congressional successes, but some key achievements of the 2003 Summit include:

- ..The America Bikes message was hand-delivered to almost every single member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and all but one Senator on the Environment and Public Works Committee. These Committees have most of the jurisdiction for the reauthorization of TEA-21.

- ..Greg LeMond and Linda Armstrong Kelly helped carry bicycling's message to key meetings, raising the profile of bicycling on the Hill.

- ..Five new cosponsors were added to H.R. 1052, the Bike Commuter Act.

- ..Fourteen new members "officially" joined the House Bike Caucus as a direct result of Summit meetings. Numerous others indicated that they would also join.

- ..Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Susan Collins (R-ME) introduced S. 542, the Conserve by Bike Act. Members in the Senate and the House expressed considerable interest in this measure. Co-sponsorship in the Senate is expected to grow rapidly over the next few days and weeks. The League is working for companion legislation to be introduced in the House.

- ..A tremendous amount of interest was generated for the Senate Bike Caucus. Senator Durbin's staff is following up with more than a dozen Senators who expressed an interest.

- ..Summit attendees generated overwhelming support in Congress for Safe Routes to Schools programs, designed to make bicycling and walking to school a safe and valued activity for children. (Continued on page 7)



# 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...

### Book Keeping

We are looking for someone who is good at book keeping. Experience with software such as Quicken or QuickBooks is desired. Free SLOCBC membership up for grabs! Contact Joe Gilpin, jgilpin@slobikelane.org

### Graphic Designer

The Coalition is looking for someone with graphic design experience to help us with production of an informational brochure. If you've got the skills, we would love to hear from you. Contact Joe Gilpin, jgilpin@slobikelane.org

### Montana de Oro bike path

Los Osos resident Jill Banfield would like to see a Class I bike path alternative to Pecho Valley Road providing access for cyclists and pedestrians to Montana de Oro State Park. She is in the early stages of development for this project and would appreciate community support and assistance. If you would like to see a new Class I bike facility in Montana de Oro please call Jill at 528-4209.

### Cambria Cross-Town Trail

The Cambria Cross-Town Trail is in peril. The project's funding may lapse if construction is not started soon. The Cambria Legal Defense Fund, and the Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon are delaying the project with objections to a bridge that has to be built by Nov 1st to keep its \$200,000 state grant. We need people to attend the hearing June 17th, the meeting begins at 9:30am in the Board Chambers at 1050 Monterey Street in San Luis Obispo, however the agenda has not yet been published, so please join the coalition listserv and you will be provided with the exact schedule for the agenda item. We need to show our support and solidarity against the potential fatal blow to this fantastic project, which has been in development since 1992, isn't it about time this thing gets built?

(Continued from page 6)

..The League honored Senator Durbin by presenting him with its National Bicycle Leadership Award, in recognition of his leadership and support for bicycling.

..The Northern Georgia Bicycle Dealers Association received the League's State Bicycle Leadership Award. All but two of the organization's members participated in the Summit, and as a result, Georgia brought one of the largest delegations to the event.

Summit attendees presented and attended a wide range of educational panels on important elements for bicycling, including: America Bikes' policy goals for TEA-3, the role of the bicycle industry in TEA-3, several different sessions on bicycle friendly communities ([www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org](http://www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org)), and the public health benefits of bicycling, bicycle networks, using statistics, the agenda for national mtb bike access, educating professionals (planners, engineers, and teachers), issue and advocacy training, working with state agencies, state and local advocacy success stories, safety and education initiatives, livable communities, implementing routine accommodation, state and local trail and path initiatives, and innovative state and local programs.

The League's Summit Sponsors were Federal Highway Administration, National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, and Bikes Belong Coalition. The League's Summit Partners included: Adventure Cycling Association, Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, America Bikes, Bikes Belong Coalition, International Mountain Bicycling Association, National Center for Bicycling and Walking, Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center, Rails to Trails Conservancy, Surface Transportation Policy Project, and Thunderhead Alliance. National Bicycle Dealers Association and Bicycling Magazine were Programming Sponsors.

Help America Bikes achieve our goals by endorsing the America Bikes agenda at <http://www.americabikes.org> and learn more about Bikes Belong Coalition at <http://www.bikesbelong.org>.

## 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	\$40	_____
Business	\$100	_____
Lifetime	\$500	_____
Benefactor	\$500 and over	_____
Additional donation	\$	_____
Total enclosed	\$	_____

New member      Address change

Renewing member

## **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:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Our mission, vision & values



Oxo Slayer

### **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)