



The Spoken Wheel

San Luis Obispo County • Number 8 • Summer 2004

Would You like a \$1,000 Bike?

COALITION ANNOUNCES: 'BIKE FIRST'

This revolutionary program has been in the works since August of 2003, and could become the basis of a model for implementation nation wide! The SLO County Bicycle Coalition in partnership with SLO Regional Rideshare is proud to announce 'Bike First,' the program that helps people get a good quality city bike that can be used for all their local and work related trips instead of their cars. Thanks to a Motor Vehicle Emissions Reduction (MOVER) grant from the San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District, and the good folks at Breezer Bicycles, 20 San Luis Obispo County residents will have the opportunity to obtain fully equipped Breezer Villager Town bike, allowing them to use their new bike as a real alternative to driving. Nothing worth having is ever free, but if you apply and are selected, you will get this \$1,026 package for only \$200 – about the cost of the cheapest mountain bike at a department store.

The package includes a brand new Breezer Villager (see photo below), which include integrated locking system, lighting system, rear rack, internal seven-speed gearing, chainguard, bell, and fenders. Selected applicants will also receive a helmet, a grocery bag, an odometer, and one year of free maintenance at Cambria Bicycle Outfitter's new location at 1422 Monterey St, SLO.

One of the largest perceived barriers to adopting cycling for more utility-based trips such as commuting and shopping is not having a good enough bicycle, or the money to spend on one. SLOCBC seeks to eliminate this formidable obstacle by providing a total solution for selected county residents. The program will not only reduce the number and frequency of personal motor vehicle trips, but also influence a permanent lifestyle change among the participants. According to Joe Gilpin, Executive Director of the SLO County Bicycle

Coalition, "The Coalition is proud to have developed this program, which will demonstrate the viability of converting motor vehicle trips into bicycle trips, improving air quality and personal health for the participants. Everyone benefits from choosing to Bike First!"

SLO's Mayor David Romero commented, "The SLO County Bicycle Coalition, the SLO County Air Pollution Control District, and Breezer Bicycles have put together a model program to encourage the use of bicycles for shorter, around town trips. We are proud that SLO's Bike First program can serve as a model for cities across the U.S. The program will promote healthier transportation choices, better air quality, less traffic and preserve our parking for the people who really need to use cars."

The Bike First Program is scheduled to kick off during late summer, with applications available on our website, www.slobikelane.org. To be considered your application must be submitted by August 31st! Applicants accepted by our selection committee will receive their new Breezer Bicycles in late September or early October and have the opportunity to take part in a special bike commuting class. Because the funding is tied to reductions in vehicle emissions certain terms and conditions apply. For more information, please visit our website!

Cyclist Killed by DUI Driver

Scott Snider may only have had his new bike for one day, but he was one of us - a cyclist. His bicycle was a father's day present and on Monday, June 21st in the afternoon he took it out to break it in with his 14-year-old son. Scott was riding on a straight portion of Creston Road in Paso Robles. This section had a small shoulder and Scott was wearing a helmet and riding single file. Scott was tragically struck by Regina Bennett's Acura Integra traveling 55 miles per hour after she lost control of the vehicle. Bennett was thrown from the vehicle and suffered only minor injuries. Scott's son could only watch as the situation unfolded. Such a senseless loss of life, and compounded by the fact that this could have been any one of us infuriates me. The Coalition has joined forces with Mother's Against Drunk Driving to raise awareness of drunk driving and to see that Bennett is punished to the fullest extent of California Law. We have also met with the DUI Taskforce and are providing input to produce future TV spots to highlight the risks bicyclists and pedestrians face when drivers are impaired.



The Coalition, Rideshare and SLO County APCD could get you one of these!



Coalition triumphs

Bob Jones Trail Clean-up!

The section of the existing Bob Jones Trail between San Luis Bay Drive and the Avila Beach Resort Golf Course has become extremely overgrown. In some sections of the path there is little more than 3 feet of rideable area with trees and bushes intruding upon the path. This section was originally built privately for a development and will eventually become owned and maintained by the County. Negotiations are underway to bring the section of Bob Jones Trail under County control, however they are moving slowly. The trail has become so overgrown that there has even been discussion of closing the trail until a maintenance agreement can be reached! The Bike Coalition has been getting numerous complaints about the vegetation on the trail and decided to do something about it. We don't want to be thought of as maintenance personnel, that's the trail owner's responsibility, however in this time of transition and when facing a temporary closure, we feel great about being able to help out and improve bicycling conditions in SLO County. On July 20th at 6pm volunteers and Coalition members met to beat back the vegetation with help from SLO County Parks. Enjoy the trail, and let's get the rest of it done soon!

Out of the Saddle

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings Coalition supporters! Since our spring issue of 'The Spoken Wheel' the issue of bike/vehicle interaction has heated up. On May 10th, I joined Rideshare Program Manager and Coalition Board Member John Donovan on KVEC 920AM for the Dave Congalton show. We were there in response to a show a week earlier that had turned into somewhat of a bash session of cyclists and how they impede traffic by bunching up and are rude to motorists. On May 14th a car on Buckley Road hit a cyclist because he failed to look over his shoulder before merging into the lane. The Tribune ran the headline "Accident Mars Bike to Work Week" and played up the error of the cyclist and gave the impression that bikes should respect cars more.

The moment I've been dreading since I joined the Coalition happened on June 21st when Scott Snider was killed while riding his bike single file on the shoulder of Creston Road by a woman who lost control of her vehicle; this happened right in front of his teenage son. Again the Tribune article did not portray this tragedy from the right perspective, choosing instead to focus on the condition of the driver who was thrown from the vehicle and walked away with minor injuries. The fact that this woman killed a man, a husband and a father was not really touched on adequately, nor was the inherent responsibility that controlling a motor vehicle requires. Only after the woman was found to be



Sara Heinrichs

Our Fearless Leader on the Jennifer Street Bridge!

intoxicated did the Tribune's coverage favor Scott's family. (see below for related story)

Clearly we need to educate motorists to respect the lethality of their vehicles when matched up against a bicycle, however to be taken seriously we need to look inside as well. As a species, we cyclists have not created a lot of love for ourselves. Many of us run stop signs, some ride on the sidewalk and others tend to clump up on roads impeding traffic. We need to shape up before we can demand the same from drivers. Please understand that whenever you ride your bike you are an ambassador for the rest of us. Coexisting isn't just about sharing the road, it's about mutual respect.

I'm working on it.

—Joe Gilpin

The State of Our State

Tregey Strikes Sonoma County

(excerpts from the 'Calbike Advocate')

Cyclists in Sonoma County were saddened and outraged by two recent crashes involving drunk drivers, which killed two cyclists and critically injured another. The local bicycling community turned out in force for court hearings for the two motorists, calling for the maximum sanctions against each driver.

The recent deaths are the biggest challenge to face the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition since its founding three years ago. Christine Culver the group's executive director and others met with State Senator Tom Torlakson – an avid triathlete and strong legislative proponent for bicycling – shortly after the crashes. The bicyclists pledged to support a package of DUI-related bills sponsored by the Senator, which have already been passed out of the Senate Public Safety Committee.

Response to the crashes among local cyclists has been heartening to advocates. "Relatively speaking, cyclists have it pretty good around here," said

Christine Culver, executive director of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition. "When things are going fine, people don't see a need for an organization. It's not until something truly outrageous happens that many people begin to get involved in advocacy. We shouldn't wait until someone dies to start thinking about protecting our rights."

California Bike Advocates in Washington DC!

Nearly 30 bicycle advocates from across California, including CBC executive director Paul Dorn, traveled to Washington DC in May for the League of American Bicyclists National Bike Summit. After a day of workshops and trainings--and an inspiring plenary luncheon featuring Enrique Penalosa, former mayor of Bogota, Colombia--California's bike activists visited the offices of both Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein, and nearly every state Representative. California's bike activists were in Washington to demand that bicycling needs be addressed in the pending reauthorization of the transportation bill.

The Spoken Wheel

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PO Box 14860
San Luis Obispo CA 93406-4860
Phone: 805.541.4076
Fax: 805.543.6847
jgilpin@slobikelane.org
http://www.slobikelane.org

E-mail Newsletter:
To join, send a email message to: SLOCBCnews-request@slobikelane.org
Include "subscribe" as the only word in the body of the message.

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Joe Gilpin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

First Thursday of the month 12 noon-1:30 P.M.
Rideshare Conference Room
1150 Osos Street, Suite 206
San Luis Obispo, CA

Agenda will be posted on our website one week prior to each meeting.
All board meetings are open to members.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

4 November 2004

MEMBERSHIP EVENT

Fall 2004

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



Bike Month 2004 a Success!

BIKE MONTH 2004!

Bike Fest

Our weekend of Bike Festivities received a warm reception from cyclists, and those that are 'bike curious'. The weekend began with Willie Weir's presentation on Bicycling India, and the fears that he overcame to undertake the trip. Willie's presentation was as informative as it was entertaining and everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Saturday's events kicked off with the Pancake breakfast in Johnson Park. Donated supplies from New Frontiers and Trader Joe's, and coffee from Higher Groundz helped feed the hungry cyclists who showed up.



Sara Heinrichs

The Roalman Rollout Arrives at the Mission Plaza!

With full bellies about 55 riders left the park and headed down the railroad safety trail. Luckily the new bike path to the Morro St. Bike Boulevard had been paved only the day before and was used for the first time by the Roalman Rollout participants! (Join us next year and ride the finished product.) Bike Fest in the Mission officially began with the arrival of the Rollout. Bike Fest filled the whole mission plaza and had a specially configured stage that had a runway catwalk crossing the fountain. Surf tunes from 'Surficide' filled the air and set the stage for the Fashion show, the stunt show and the children's bike rodeo. The final event of the day was our prize raffle, and 2004 proved to be no different than 2002 in that a single person won both of our grand prizes! Seth Howard of San Luis Obispo took home our KHS commuting bicycle and the BOB trailer with an investment of only \$10! Congratulations Seth!

Biker's Ball

Sunday May 9th brought San Luis Obispo County its first Biker's Ball at 'The Graduate', which provided the venue with all proceeds donated back to the Bike Coalition. The main draw to the event was the Coalition's first annual 'Golden Sprocket Awards' where we took time to honor five people who are making the County a better place for cyclists. The first award went to Mark Grayson for his contribution to bike culture including his founding the Thursday night 'Bike Happenings'. SLO City Councilman John Ewan was honored for his environmental awareness and enthusiasm in government, Rod Hoadley was recognized for his innovation in bringing a new kind of bike rack that will begin making appearances around SLO over the next few months in a new program called 'racks with plaques' as a replacement to the 'green bench' program. Peggy Mandeville of SLO City Public Works was also recognized for her efforts with the bicycle advisory committee and willingness to accept new ideas. Our grand award went to Dr. Jim Hannah because if not for he, the coalition would not exist today. The Graduate provided a great venue for our classic bike show and information about future bicycle infrastructure. If you didn't attend this year, you missed out! Join us for next year's Biker's Ball!

Bike to Work Week

Bike to Work Week featured a different part of the county all week! This year stood out from the past in that the City of SLO helped bring free coffee all week long for the first time ever! Eight coffee shops let the coffee flow to cyclists with helmets Monday the 10th to Friday the 14th with Friday bringing over 100 SLO Regional Rideshare goodie bags and Free Jamba Juice. Linnaea's Café



Joe Gilpin

Coalition Member Rod Hoadley is presented with the 'Innovation' Golden Sprocket Award at Bikers Ball!

reported their stock of 15 goodie bags and 20 Bike Month T-shirts used up within minutes of opening their doors at 6:30am! Business was brisk at other SLO Coffee Shops and Jamba Juice gave out almost 100 smoothies at its two San Luis Obispo locations.

The Bicycle Coalition would like to extend a warm thank you to all our volunteers who helped make the breakfast, the rollout and the bike rodeo happen! Also, a big thank you to SLO Regional Rideshare and The Air Pollution Control District for their considerable roles in bringing the event to you. Special thanks also go to The San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club, 3CMB, Art's Cyclery, Cambria Bicycle Outfitters, Foothill Cyclery, Switchbox, Sunstorm Cyclery, Slime, Jamba Juice and the countless others who helped bring the events off without a snag.

Do you have ideas for Bike Month 2005 or know someone who should get a Golden Sprocket Award next year? We will be forming a Bike Month 2005 Committee in the coming weeks and would love your input! Contact Joe Gilpin for more details **541-4076**, or jgilpin@slobikelane.org

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Bicycle Commuting Can Save You Big \$\$\$

by Jim Aaron

HOW TO DO IT

HOW TO MAKE COMMUTING WORK FOR YOU AND HOW I MADE IT WORK FOR ME.

Living in sunny California is expensive. Combined with current gas prices many people are feeling the pinch. For many of us, transportation costs eat up a higher percentage of income than living in other states. Now more than ever, the incentive to car pool, ride the bus, or commute by bike can bring immediate relief.

How much can be saved? How about one hundred dollars monthly, and possibly one thousand, or more, annually? Want to hear more? Are we really living the American dream working more hours per week on average, than any other country in the industrialized world? Spending more time commuting, working harder and having less and less?

As Americans we are less fit, less healthy, and more stressed than our European counterparts. Why? Because as Americans we've been brainwashed that we need to have cars. Don't get me wrong. I love cars. In fact all the money I'm saving commuting is going to help me pay for that BMW I covet. And that is for many of us, our own dirty (air polluting) little secret. We (Californians) in many cases do not need the car to get to work. We have for the most part perfect weather. We want to drive. We want to show we are successful, sporty, stylish, chic, cool, cowboy, urban, punk, and sophisticated.

Working with the SLOCBC these past three years has given me some great insight to the BIG PICTURE of transportation solutions. The truth is most Americans use their cars as fashion accessories, and extensions of their personalities rather than necessary transportation, or as a means to and end, i.e. point A to point B transportation. It's a fact that much of our air pollution, and 95% of all Auto day use is for trips less than 5 miles in duration. Our Euro counter parts happily ride their bikes and walk for short trips, and take holidays (vacations is what we call them) with the money they Do Not Spend on cars. They also pay 50% more for gas.

Getting Started?

You've got to get motivated! In my case I was inspired after this years bike month and bike to work week. I happened to choose one of those incredible California mornings to ride my bike to work, for bike to work week. It was one of those mornings where the sun was shining, warming my back as I rode into

the yet cool breeze coming off the ocean. The combination of birds, sky, sun, and wind was intoxicating. Wow! What a day was all I was thinking all the way to work. I would have missed this had I been driving my car. I should do this more often I said to myself.

Inspiration vs. Motivation

After that memorable ride to work I was still inspired, but not motivatedSir your card was declined! Declined.....what?huh? That's MOTIVATION! I had not calculated the expense of driving my Ford pick up from Nipomo to SLO and back when I agreed to join the love of my life who happened to live in Nipomo. As I reviewed my ATM purchases for the last month versus the month before it was clear something had to be done. At \$72 to fill double tanks a couple times a week my monthly gas budget had just doubled from \$200 to \$300 per month to over \$600 (personal and commuting mileage combined).....ouch!

Excuses, Excuses

There are many. It's too far. It takes too much time. I don't have the right clothes.....ok you can talk your way out of it if you want to, but what about the money? How are you going to over come that? Are you going to get a part time job to cover the difference?

Time

How much time does it take to commute? That depends on your situation. Obviously not to many people are going to commute over 30 miles each way, and ironically it's the people who live closest to work, who could easily commute that do not. But in either case the time issue has a constant math that for most people will pay out better than another part time job or working extra overtime. There are other subtle savings that are achieved with commuting also, but we will save the health and mental health benefits for another story, another day.

But how do I get started? I'm not a super fit athlete; I can't ride 30 miles you say? Then don't! I have a friend who drives from Santa Margarita to the bottom of the Guesta grade, then hops on his bike (wearing his dapper business attire) and then rides his bike to work on South Higuerra. He's still saving 50% on his gas and expenses because he's reduced his commute by 50%. Brilliant I say!

You can do it also. Start by mapping out a safe route. Take a Saturday to drive the route with your car and familiarize yourself with the best route. Then test ride the route with out the worry of being late to work, and the stress of doing it for the first time. If your not fit

now understand that you will be soon, but you have to be realistic to start.

I recommend starting with one day a week. Fridays are a good day to start. Drive your car 2/3rds of the way or half way, and ride your bike the rest. Do this a couple times a week to start and gradually increase the distance until you can ride all the way. Another way is to drive to work one day and ride home in the evening. Rest up and ride back to work the next day. Mix it up. You can also combine it with the bus, or car-pooling like I do. Being flexible in your approach is best; try several variations, and combinations until you find the one that works for you.

It's not about speed. If you've been watching the Tour De France this month no doubt you've seen our hero Lance riding along at 25-35 mph. That's fine if your want to arrive at work hot, sweaty, and looking like you just rode the tour. In my case I am a seasoned rider and my employer does provide a shower so I can hammer if I want to. I prefer to cruise in the morning, arriving at work energized and refreshed. I save the hammer ride for my ride home in the evening, knowing I can relax when I get there. With most bikes today it's easy to roll along at 10-15 mph with little effort. If your not fit when you start you'll be amazed at how fast your fitness improves with out even trying too hard, which means your commute times will improve over time but that's not the goal here.

In Europe and cities across the country men and women commute to work each day in everyday attire, and some like my friend in suites. The key is in the pace, and a little bit of fitness. It is possible to cover quite a good distance in descent time with out perspiring profusely. That is in fact the beauty of the bicycle. Once one has achieved forward momentum one can pedal along with no more effort than one would walking. The efficiency of the rolling wheel combined with the mechanical advantage of gearing allows a cyclist to coast along at speeds several times faster than walking with no more effort. A fit cyclist can go even faster with out breaking a sweat due to their more efficient cardiovascular system. You can too!

My next installment of tips for commuting will cover low cost ways to get started, and several common sense techniques to stay fresh and comfortable after you arrive from your commute. Feel free to email me with any questions you may have via www.slobikelane.org

See Jim's Full article with cost saving calculations at www.slobikelane.org!

Membership Matters...

MEMBERSHIP

SLOCBC welcomes its newest members to our family since the spring issue of The Spoken Wheel! These new additions bring our total paid membership to 235! With our business members added we have 247 paid members! 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.org>.

MEETINGS OPEN TO ALL

The SLOCBC board of directors meets regularly on the second 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 a Biker's Ball member event for Sunday, May 8th, 2004.

NEW MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members since our Spring 2004 issue. If you have submitted membership and

don't see your name, we are still processing your application, please check if your name is in our next issue.

Individual

Clint Edwards ●Darren Brown
Kevin Christian●James Guthrie
Andy Mutziger

Families

Wendy, Frank & Luke Owen-Disch
Merril & Ken Lynn-Shamordola
Don & Anne Wheeler

Grass Roots

Ben Kulick●Watson Gooch
Peggy Mandeville●Seth Howard
Martin Stenger●Elizabeth Clark
Robin Castro●John Kommer

Business

Cambria Bicycle Outfitters
Sunstorm Cyclery
John Little Construction

RENEWING MEMBERS

Here is a listing of new SLO County Bicycle Coalition members that have renewed their 2003 memberships to date. All expiring members have been sent renewal notices. If you have received one, please renew and continue your support!

Renewing Members

Jim Aaron, Mike McGuire, Boudreaux Family, Rob Gordon, Jayma Newland, Elizabeth Gilpin, Yvonne Baskin, Michael Gilpin, Pacific Energy Co., Matt & Rita Colonell, Denny Mynatt, Llyn & Troy Hunter

BUSINESS MEMBERS

The San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition salutes our current business members! We are now ready to offer a new business dues structure (see page 8) that will help recognize those of you who help us the most. We now offer advertising services to our business members. Please call Joe Gilpin at 541-4076 for more details.

Current Business Members

Cambria Bicycle Outfitters *Gold
John Little Construction
Sunstorm Cyclery
Switchbox Bikes
New Frontiers
Liz Johnston LCSW
Truativ
BOB Trailers Inc.
Foothill Cyclery
Art's SLO Cyclery
Pacific Energy Co.
SOJOE

New Stripes in Pismo Beach!

CALTRANS COMES THROUGH AGAIN!

If anyone has ridden Price St in Pismo Beach over the last month you may have noticed a very nice change! For many years now, Price St has been so deteriorated that its shoulder, and even parts of the lane were unridable to anything but a mountain bike. Many cyclists were forced to ride in the lane with vehicles next to a freeway onramp.

The Bicycle Coalition had this location listed with the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) under their registry of unmet bicycle needs since 2002. Additionally, the Coalition and the San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club had sent numerous letters to Caltrans and the city of Pismo Beach putting them under notice of a dangerous condition. California law states that a property owner can be held liable if a condition on their property creates a substantial risk of injury when it is used with due care in a manner which it was reasonably foreseeable that it will be used.

Caltrans responded to our letters about this section of roadway and we now have a beautifully smooth five to eight foot shoulder to enjoy. The new paving stretches the exact length of roadway that we requested be fixed, from Dolliver St. north



A northbound cyclist enjoys the new 'extrawide' shoulder on Price Street just before the Mattie Road underpass.

to Mattie Road. This stretch is on the Pacific Coast Bike route and is heavily used by local and touring cyclists alike.

Meet the board

CURRENT BOARD MEMBER:

DAN KALLAL

Residence: San Luis Obispo since 1988

Occupation: Architect, & professional swap meet/ yard sale shopper. (I bought my house at a yard sale.)

My Bike History:

My first bike was a Schwinn Stingray that my Dad and I picked up at the police auction. To this day, of the 30 or so bikes that have rolled through my life, I have only purchased one brand new bike of which I still own.

My teenage summers included a daily ride to the beach on my single-speed Schwinn beach cruiser. Barefoot, bare-chested with sandals and towel in the basket and the wind at my back I often adventured the 10 miles south to Newport Beach. I seemed to forget things easily those summers, including that the gentle ocean breeze was not so gentle in the late afternoon on my return trip.

The years of getting around with the beach cruiser came to an end after my first year at Cal Poly riding back and forth to class from the dorms. I broke an axle and a few chains before I started looking for my first geared bike.

The swap meet has proven fruitful for my collection of bikes. My first geared bike, a rickety \$5 Sears 3-speed, became my daily commuter along the railroad tracks to Cal Poly from downtown. Painted entirely flat black with no lights or reflectors, this bike disappeared into any rack or any bush and



Joe Gilpin

was rarely locked. This lack-luster bike helped catapult me into the bicycle lime-light when we won an ugly bike contest at Cal Poly.

These days I am active in many bike events. I help out with the SLO Bike Happening and often emcee and participate in Bike Sumo after the ride. The "BOB Nationals" that used to accompany the SLO downtown criterium got me excited about parades. I have taken the reins to get the Happening into our local parades. We have been 4 years in the SLO Holiday Parade, 2 years in the Mardi Gras parade and last year was our first in the 4th of July Cayucos Parade.

With this history of group organization and my activity in other parts of our community, I have been recruited by the Coalition to lead the membership committee and thus opening a new chapter in my bike history.

What do I ride?

Well it all depends. When I ride downtown I usually ride my big-ol'-tank-cruiser-delivery-bike with a gigantic basket. But that's out of commission right now so I might ride my Hercules 3-spd unless of course I wanted to ride my Schwinn cruiser or my other Raleigh 3-spd with the ducks in the sprocket. But that's assuming I'm alone. If I have a friend along I might suggest we ride my newly acquired tandem since my tricycle tandem seems to stay in Santa Margarita most of the time. Now if I was going to ride to my friend's house (downtown) I might think about getting out my flat-black Sears 3-spd so I could toss it in the bushes and forget about it. One of these days I will be riding the cool Wizard-of-Oz-evil-witch lookin' 3-spd that's been in

my back yard for about three years. Oh, if I wanted to hit the hills I would break out my archaic Cannondale mountain bike. I really should concentrate on getting my big-ol'-tank-cruiser-delivery-bike back on the road so I can take it to the swap meet and look for more bikes.

My Vision:

My vision is of a beautiful woman on her bicycle with a basket of fruits and vegetables on her handlebars with wind blowing through her hair and glistening rims complementing the sparkle in her eyes. And of course this would all be taking place amongst a sea people on bikes going to work, to the market, to a friends, to school, to lunch, or to catch the bus.

My vision is of people on their bikes as a daily form of transportation reaping the benefits of being active and not polluting our environment.

The bicycle is an environmental tool, a social tool and a tool of good health. Our communities need to plan for bicycles to encourage their daily use. If we don't implement better planning for bicycle transportation their use will be limited to those of us who brave to battle with the automobile.

My vision for the Bike Coalition is for us to become an institution in the community and a powerful voice for bicycle related issues. Whether we need to rally support to influence political decisions, get the word out about hazardous conditions, promote bicycle safety or promote bicycles use in general, I want the Bike Coalition to be the first place people turn to for information and support.

—Dan Kallal

Coalition Briefs

JOIN THE COALITION!

We've been making the transition to an calendar year dues structure to simplify the renewal process. That means if you join between now and the end of the year we'll give you membership benefits until the end of 2005! That's nearly 6 months of 'free' membership! Now you really have no excuse!

JOIN OUR COMMITTEES

Since we launched our new committees in January (see www.slobikelane.org and click on 'get involved') we've seen the Coalition gain a tremendous amount of direction. The Advocacy Committee has been particularly helpful in determining the short term direction

of the Coalition. These committees are the best way to involve yourself in the Coalition and require little commitment. Please join us!

JOIN THE E-NEWSLETTER

SLOCBC now has an E-newsletter! The newsletter is sent out about three times a month and will keep you updated on all events, news and issues that affect us locally in San Luis Obispo County. To subscribe, simply send a blank email to the following address:

SLOCBCnews-subscribe@slobikelane.org

Feel free to invite anyone you want to sign up who might be interested in hearing about any activities and news that the Coalition is

involved in.

TAKE YOUR BIKE ON THE BUS!

San Luis Obispo County has recently been in the national spotlight as we have one of the first fleets of busses with two sets of 3 position bike mounts. This means many of our RTA busses can now carry 6 bicycles at a time! This innovation by Sportworks bicycle racks is allowing cyclists countywide to have more confidence that there will be a place for their bike on the bus and is helping to promote bicycle-bus commuting. For more information about bus schedules countywide, please visit www.rideshare.org.

NEXT PAGE...

Ongoing Coalition projects

Area/s	Route/s	Jurisdiction/s
Regional significance	Hwy 1 corridor (Hwy 101 to Monterey County line)	SLO City/City of Morro Bay/SLO County/Caltrans/SLOCOG
Regional significance	Bob Jones City-to-Sea Trail	SLO City/SLO County Parks/SLO Land Conservancy/SLOCOG
Regional significance	SLO County Sheriff's Christmas Bike Give-away Project	SLO County
North Coast	Morro Bay to Cayucos connector	City of Morro Bay/State Parks/SLOCOG
North Coast	Cambria Cross-Town Trail	SLO County Parks/SLOCOG
North County	Atascadero to Templeton connector	SLO County/Caltrans/City of Atascadero/SLOCOG
North County	Cuesta Grade North connection	SLO County/Caltrans
San Luis Obispo	Hwy 227 corridor (South St. to Los Ranchos Dr.)	SLO City/SLO County/Caltrans
San Luis Obispo	Railroad Safety Trail Extensions	SLO City/Union Pacific Railroad/Cal Poly
South County	Bikes on Grand (Grand Ave. from Hwy 101 to Hwy 1)	City of Arroyo Grande/City of Grover Beach/SLOCOG
South County	Price Canyon widening (Hwy 227 to Ormonde Road)	SLO County/SLOCOG
Ongoing programs	SLO County Bikeways Project, Mapping	All jurisdictions/SLO Bicycle Club/ECOSLO
Ongoing programs	Sinsheimer Elementary Bike Club pilot program	John Altman (club coordinator)/IMBA Sprockids Program
Ongoing programs	Coexist, Share the Roads Campaign	SLO County
Ongoing programs	Bike Fest / Bike Month 2005	SLO City, SLO Regional Rideshare

Coalition Briefs (continued...)

BIKE HAPPENING!

The first Thursday of every month at 9:30pm hundreds of cyclists converge on the Mission Plaza in SLO for Bike Happening! The Bike Happening is a "Courteous Mass" ride where riders obey all traffic laws and stop at all traffic control devices. Don't forget to bring your bicycle lights as local law enforcement have been ticketing riders without them. April's Happening drew 519 riders, many wear costumes and ride exotic bicycles.

BOARD AGENDAS AND MINUTES ON WEB

Our past board meeting agendas and meeting minutes are now available on our website for review. Go to our website at www.slobikelane.com.

org and click the "small print" section. Current board agendas will be posted approximately one week before the announced date.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ON OUR BOARD?

The Bicycle Coalition holds elections for seats on our Board of Directors annually in November. Board members are required to meet once monthly for an hour and a half. In addition, the Coalition encourages board members to serve on one of our committees and spread the virtues of the organization as widely as possible. Our Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at noon in the Rideshare conference room (1150 Osos St. Ste. 206). If you're interested, please come to

a meeting and see if it is something that you want to pursue. Email Joe Gilpin, for a board member interest sheet if you would like to be considered in the fall. Thanks!

COALITION REPS NEEDED

Ideally, the Coalition would love to have a local representative in every part of the county that can act as a conduit for local issues and assist with their resolution. The Coalition needs to have eyes and ears on the scene in every part of the county. Ted Aclan in Grover Beach and Merril Lynn in Nipomo have stepped up to do just that! Could you?

Cycling contacts

Central Coast Concerned Mountain Bikers (3CMB)

Contact: Greg Bettencourt, 995-1675.

San Luis Obispo Bicycle Club

Contact: Robert Davis, 772-0874.

SLO City Bicycle Advisory Committee

Meets 3rd Thursday January, March, May, July, September & November. at City Hall, 7:00 P.M. Contact: Peggy Mandeville, 781-7590.

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.

Nipomo Coalition representative

Merril Lynn, 931-0360.

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 _____
 Benefactor \$500 and over _____

Business **Standard** \$100 _____
 Business **Silver** \$500 _____
 Business **Gold** \$1,000 _____
 Business **Platinum** \$5,000+ _____

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



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>

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

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



San Luis Obispo County Bicycle Coalition
 PO Box 14860
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406-4860
www.slobikelane.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED