



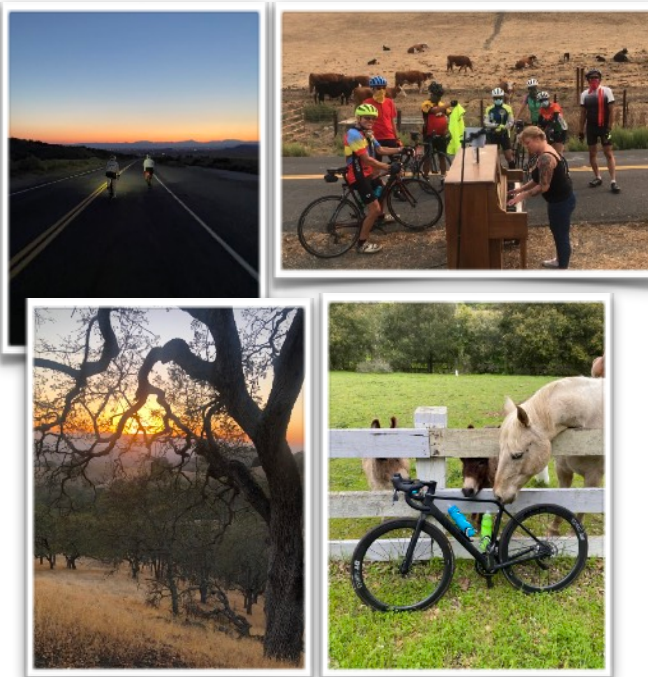
Standing VS Club Rides & Events

Go to valleyspokesmen.org for the most up-to-date information on rides

Outdoor social club rides and upcoming events are cancelled for the foreseeable future. We encourage those who can, to ride solo or with those you live with and wear a face covering.

Photo Contest Winners

The VS monthly photo contest has drawn many amazing photos. Below are some of the winners from August - November. You can find more photos at www.valleyspokesmen.org (*Photo Contest Winners cont'd on page 2*)



(Photos top l to r clockwise): Alta Alpina Invitation only ride near Mottsville, CA; Collier Canyon Rd near windmill; curious horses on Palomares Rd.; S. Gate Rd on Mt. Diablo.

President's Message

Happy New Year VSBC and Fellow Cyclists!

While bike events and formal club rides have been suspended due to the pandemic, it's nice to be able to report that some great bicycle infrastructure projects have been moving ahead in Danville and San Ramon. One project recently completed is the upgrade of bicycle lanes and facilities on Diablo Road between Hartz Avenue on the west end and Green Valley Road at the east end. About a year ago, Danville planners reached out to Mount Diablo Cyclists (MDC) and VSBC to provide input on the plans for this upgrade. With the town's proposed project map in hand, Alan Kalin representing MDC and I (*Mark Dedon*) visited each proposed bike lane upgrade location and offered our input. The town's planning team was very appreciative and now it's great to see new striping, signs, and bike-sensitive signal lights.



New bike box at the intersection of Green Valley Rd & Diablo Rd. in Danville.

In parallel has been the kickoff of Danville's new Bicycle Master Plan. Several times this year, the public was invited to provide input in the development of a comprehensive master plan for cycling in and around Danville, and you can still provide your input! Check out the cool interactive map at <https://danvillebikeplan.com/> and let the town know where you would like to see improvements made for cycling, where you like to ride and where you think there are barriers to cycling in Danville. (*cont'd on page 3*)

QUARTERLY FEATURE

Photo Contest Winners (cont'd from p. 1)



(Photos top l to r clockwise): Porcupine Trail in Moab, Utah; Marin Headlands Tunnel; Mt. Diablo; Walt's Birthday ride in Coyote Hills Parking Lot (l-r Julie Hampton, Melinda Mayfield, Walt Thomas, Julie Uher); Hazy sunset below the Junction on Mt. Diablo, Bad Water in Death Valley.

(Photos top l to r clockwise): Mt. Diablo State Park; Dianne Thompson at the summit of Mt. Ventoux; Lookout Point on Summit Rd - Mt. Diablo; Mt. Diablo.

45th Cinderella Anniversary Jersey

2021 marks the 45th anniversary of the Cinderella Classic/Challenge, the original women and girls only ride with profits benefiting women's charities in the tri-valley area. Please watch our website and your inbox for updates on the Cinderella this year. To commemorate this year, we have created a beautiful short sleeve jersey and sleeveless windshell vest manufactured by Voler.

For information and ordering go to <https://www.voler.com/browse/collections/details/li/ValleySpokesmen>



VS Quarterly Meeting

Our last meeting was on Wednesday, December 2, on Zoom. Many thanks to VS member, Bob Strain for an excellent presentation on a recent trip he did with Ken Hernandez: "Mountain Bike Packing from Durango, CO to Moab, UT via San Juan Huts Trail System."..It looked like a great trip with some excellent mountain biking and gorgeous scenery. The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 3 at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Look for the announcement and Zoom link via VSList email.

President's Message *(continued from page 1)*

Another worthwhile bike safety improvement project is the Diablo Road Trail. As the result of the approval of the Magee Preserve development, a new paved bike trail will be built on the south side of Diablo Road between Green Valley Road and Mount Diablo Scenic Road. Danville planners are finalizing the route for this trail which will provide safe access for cyclists between downtown Danville and the south entrance of Mount Diablo, without the need to enter the private Diablo community or use a dangerous section of Diablo Road.

Mount Diablo State Park has made progress this year with the installation of four more bike turnouts.

This brings the total to 17 bike turnouts in the park. While a total of 77 bike turnouts are needed, it is nice to see some progress with this initiative that is already improving biking safety and traffic flow. Check out the Mt. Diablo Cyclists website at <https://mountdiablocyclists.org/> for more information.



Finally, San Ramon announced that construction of a long-awaited Iron Horse Trail bridge over Bollinger Canyon Road will begin next year! This bridge will provide huge benefits to cyclists and motor vehicles at one of the busiest intersections in the Tri Valley. For details just search online for "[San Ramon Iron Horse Trail Overcrossings Project](#)."

We are fortunate that, during the new lockdowns, cycling is actually encouraged. No official group club rides yet, but at least we can get our cycling fixes solo and look forward to regrouping once the pandemic is conquered by the coming vaccinations.

Mark & Erica Dedon, Co-Presidents

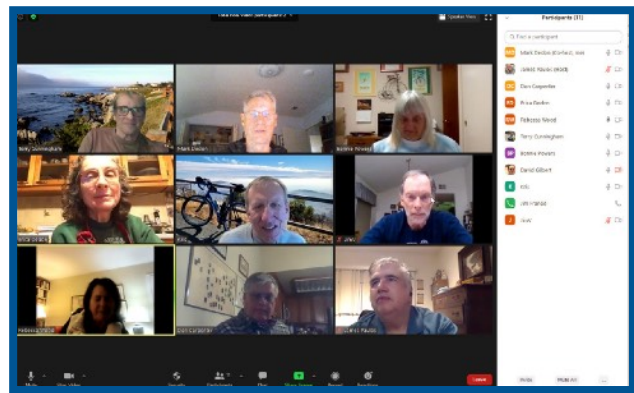
VALLEY SPOKESMEN BICYCLE CLUB 2021 CLUB OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Co-Presidents: Erica & Mark Dedon
Vice-President: Dave Gilbert
Treasurer: Don Carpenter
Recording Secretary: Julie Uher
Administrative Services Dir.: Bonnie Powers
Cycling Co-Directors: Terry Cunningham & Kris Yost
Communications Director: Rebecca Wood
Events Director: Jim Duncan
Other Club Positions:
Webmaster: Jim Van De Vreugde
VS Racing Team: Jonathan McCaskey
Ride Coordinator(s): Terry Cunningham & Kris Yost
Mileage Keeper: James Paulos
Feather Pedal Liaison: Karin Ball
Rebecca Wood

Valley Spokesmen Membership Provides Amazing Benefits

We encourage cyclists to join the Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Club and enjoy these benefits:

- ***Bicycle Advocacy:*** VSBC members attend local city council meetings and advocate for bicycle improvements and safety in the local tri-valley.
- ***Member Discounts:*** Members receive discounts at many local bicycle shops with a VS Membership Card. For a list of bike shops, go to www.valleyspokesmen.org.
- ***Preferential registration:*** Members receive preferential registration for The Cinderella Classic and TOSRD (Tour Of the Sacramento River Delta).
- ***Ride with GPS:*** Free, turn by turn audible cues when using "Ride with GPS" VS Club Rides.
- ***Annual VS Party:*** Members receive an invitation to our annual VS Party: dinner, dancing, camaraderie, awards and fun. *(This event had to be cancelled for 2021 but we are hopeful for 2022).*
- ***Member Only Pages:*** Online Membership enables access to "Member Only" pages that provide a Directory of club members and other important information.
- ***VS Google Email List:*** Club members are eligible to participate in the VS Google e-mail list to chat about club events, rides, and other social activities.
- ***Feather Pedals:*** This branch of VS prepares new and experienced riders for the Cinderella Classic and Challenge events.
- ***Strava Club:*** Club members are eligible to join at strava.com.



Recently Elected VS Board Members

During the VS (December Zoom meeting. *(Starting in upper left corner l to r):* Terry Cunningham, Mark Dedon, Bonnie Powers, *2nd row:* Erica Dedon, Kris Yost, Jim Van De Vreugde, *3rd row* Rebecca Wood, Don Carpenter, James Paulos. *Not pictured* — Jim Duncan, Dave Gilbert, Julie Uher.

Get to Know Valley Spokesmen

Valley Spokesmen was founded in 1971 by local cyclists interested in perpetuating the cycling culture in the Tri-Valley. 50 years later the Club is a leader in bicycle advocacy, accessibility and miles ridden! Valley Spokesmen used to and will again have group road and mountain bike rides every week for riders of all levels. They are known for the Cinderella ride in March, and the Mt. Diablo Challenge in October. In past years, the club sponsors many events and rides that benefit the community we live in and others that are just for fun. Join us at www.valleyspokesmen.org

Upcoming Events (Watch VS Calendar)

Most upcoming events have been cancelled or put on hold pending further information.

Cinderella Classic/Challenge For the latest information, go to www.valleyspokesmen.org
Paso Robles Ride (Cancelled)

VS Quarterly Zoom Meeting, 7:00 pm, Wednesday March 3, 2021 *(Watch VS Calendar for information)*

VS July Michigan Trip, July 2021. *(tentative)*

VS 50th Birthday BBQ, August 2021 *(tentative)*

Mt. Diablo Challenge, October 3, 2021 Go to www.mountdiablochallenge.org to stay up-to-date.