



Standing VS Club Rides & Events

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

Starting April 1, VSBC is restarting scheduled group rides. All participants must register online and agree to the liability waiver prior to riding, using either the VSBC website ride calendar or the ride calendar on the 'Wild Apricot for Members' app for iPhone or Android. Participants must follow county, state and CDC guidelines for social distancing and masking which are listed in the ride registration information. A small price to pay to get back to group rides!

WED 4/5M 14-24.3 miles, 9:00 am St. Timothy's Church, Danville. Ride Host: Rick Edmondson.

Friendly **FRI 2L/M** no-drop 25-35 miles, 9:00 am, Sports Basement, San Ramon
Ride Host: Terry Cunningham



Virtual **Cinderella & Cinderella** Challenge Event, May 15-23, 35, 50 & 60+ rides. Check valleyspokesmen.org for details.

Mt. Diablo Challenge,

Sunday, October 3, 2021. Check MountDiabloChallenge.org for details.

Presidents' Message

Hi Fellow Cyclists!

It is with great joy to report that VSBC is once again scheduling club rides on the calendar! As of April 1, thanks to our ride directors, webmaster, and mileage tracker, we now have a completely touch-free and efficient registration process for club rides. While there are some important safety considerations in place, the process to sign up for a club ride is very smooth, both using your desktop computer or the smart phone app. Initially, the group size was limited to 10 plus a leader but now has been expanded to 20 club members. If the rides continue to go well, guests will be able to join the rides soon. Please refer to the VSBC website (<https://valleyspokesmen.org/ridecalendar>) for more information for both ride hosts and participants. A big THANK YOU to ride hosts for using the new process to get rides back on the calendar.

Have you seen the February/March photo contest gallery? The photos are gorgeous and not only show off our members' photography skills but also highlight a few of the great places around us. Thanks to all who have contributed photos and to those who have voted for their favorites. Now that the scheduled club rides are back, April will be the last month for the photo contest. Consider exercising your photo skills with wildflower subjects to fill up the April photo gallery with spring color! We recommend a ride to Sunol Regional Park to check out the wildflowers (Erica had hoped to lead her yearly

(continued on p. 3)

QUARTERLY FEATURE

45th Virtual Cinderella & Cinderella Challenge Ride

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. This year is a 9-day, Virtual Ride that starts May 15 and goes through May 23. You can complete any 35, 50 or 60+ mile ride anywhere in the world and submit it through our website, pay the fee and receive a Cinderella Patch and be put in a drawing for a commemorative jersey and other goodies provided by our sponsors Trek Bikes, Dublin Cyclery and Sports Basement. Please check our website. 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 quarterly meeting was on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 6:45 pm on Zoom. Many thanks to VS member, Vic Taugher for an excellent presentation on his "2019 Oregon Mountain Bike Tour". He and seven other friends went on a 300

mile, 10-day mountain bike tour crisscrossing the Oregon Cascades.



(Photo left: Vic and 4 of seven friends on the MacKenzie River. The trip started and ended in Bend, Oregon)

The next quarterly meeting is **Wednesday, June 2 at 6:45 pm.**

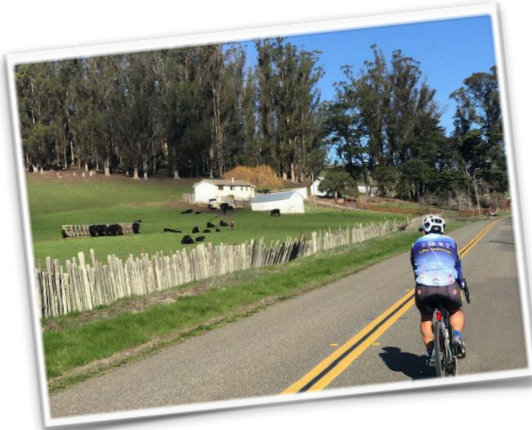
Terry Cunningham will present a slide show of his trip across the United States. Look for the announcement and Zoom link via VSList.

Photo Contest Winners

April is the last month of the VSBC Photo Contest and we will miss seeing the beautiful, fun and interesting photos members have submitted for their rides. It reminds us that not only do we ride for fitness reasons but because we love the scenery, the camaraderie and the beauty. Here are some more photos to enjoy: [December 2020 Winners](#)



Top photo: 1st place Mt. Diablo morning ride; 2nd place: Masked photo in Clayton Central Park; 3rd place: Bike Trail at south end of Golden Gate Bridge.

Photo Contest (cont'd)**January 2021 Winners**

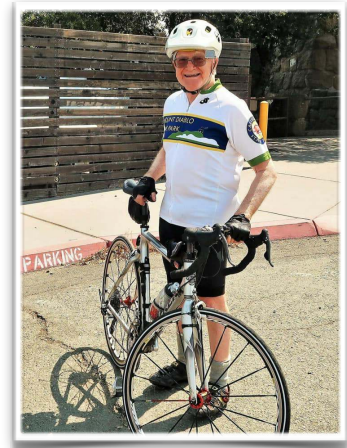
Top photo: 1st place: Mt. Diablo-Burma Road; 2nd place: Chileno Valley Rd - Petaluma; 3rd place: Curious bob kitten on South Gate Rd., Mt. Diablo.

VSBC Presidents' Message (continued)

spring wildflower ride there, but alas shoulder surgery dashed those plans this year). Submit your photo entries to

vsbc_photo@valleyspokesmen.org.

On a somber note, Bay Area cyclists are mourning the loss of one of their own. Joe Shami, 86 years young died April 13 from injuries sustained from a collision with an SUV in a roundabout intersection in Lafayette. Many of our club members knew Joe from riding with him up Mount Diablo on one of his many rides- imagine more than 600 straight weeks riding up



Mount Diablo! Our hearts go out to his friends and loved ones for this huge loss. Watch the VSBC Facebook page for details of an upcoming memorial for Joe on May 1.

Save the dates for some big club events coming up: On Saturday, August 7, VSBC will be celebrating its 50th anniversary! We are very much hoping we can gather then and celebrate together this important club milestone. See the VS ride calendar for details.

On Sunday, October 3, VSBC will be hosting the 38 annual [Mount Diablo Challenge](#)! This will be the one in-person riding event put on by your club this year. Try to beat your last time or volunteer to support the event. Either way, it will be a day to enjoy and remember.

-Mark and Erica Dedon (VSBC 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 McKaskey
Ride Coordinator(s): Terry Cunningham & Kris Yost
Mileage Keeper: James Paulos
Feather Pedal Liaison: Rebecca Wood

Card. For a list of bike shops, go to www.valleyspokesmen.org/Local-Bike-Shops.

- **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.



Elected VS Board Members VS Board Members during the April Zoom Board Meeting. (Starting in upper left corner l to r): Mark Dedon, Rebecca Wood, Kris Yost, Erica Dedon, (2nd Row l to r): Bonnie Powers, Terry Cunningham, Jim Van De Vreugde (not elected-ne), Don Carpenter. (3rd row l to r): Julie Uher, James Paulos (ne), Dave Gilbert Not pictured — Jim Duncan.

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

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. Join us at www.valleyspokesmen.org

Upcoming Events (Watch VS Calendar)

Virtual Cinderella Classic/Challenge For the latest information, go to www.valleyspokesmen.org

Paso Robles Ride (Cancelled)

VS Quarterly Zoom Meeting, 6:45 pm, Wednesday June 2 2021

VS July Michigan Trip, (Cancelled)

VS 50th Birthday BBQ, August 7, 2021.

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

TOSRD, (Cancelled)