



# PETALUMA WHEELMEN

Cycling safely since 1895

## *President's Message*

Wow, where has the year gone? I know for a fact that every year goes faster than the last so make a pledge to yourself that you will get on that bike and ride. (You can rest when you are dead, as the saying goes.)

It has been a great year so far with our many club rides and various events. The Club Picnic /BBQ and the Santa Cruz Tour were outstanding. We have had about fourteen new members, who have partaken in rides and events. Several great speakers plus one movie night at our General Meetings were informative and fun and the pizzas delightful.

We have one more major event for 2011 and that is the 6th Annual Holiday Party on December 10 at Taps, Petaluma; look for info on our website.

I know many of you are clamoring to be on the Petaluma Wheelmen Board of Directors and now is the time to speak out and get involved. Email me and let me know you are interested at [bodegajoe@me.com](mailto:bodegajoe@me.com). Thank you 2011; we look forward to 2012 to be even better.



**Joe Conway, PWCC President**

## *Join a Club Ride!*

You can join an Easy to Moderate paced (11-13 mph average) ride at the Apple Box in downtown Petaluma any Tuesday, Thursday, or Sunday at 8:45 a.m. These rides are usually 30-45 miles with a bakery stop in the middle, and coffee or lunch at the end in Petaluma. Enjoy some great company on beautiful roads.

More challenging rides occur on Saturdays at various times and starting places. Join the Email Ride List at <http://lists.sonic.net/mailman/listinfo/pwcc-rides> where the Saturday route and pace should be announced by the prior Thursday.

Are you a beginner? Or just returning to cycling after a long absence? Look on the calendar for a Saturday Welcome Ride, leaving the Apple Box at 10:30 a.m. We try to have one of these rides per month. You'll get lots of TLC, the pace will be very relaxed, and the distance will not wear you out.

## *Holiday Club Party*

Join us on December 10. Details coming soon on the website.

## *Member Wes Holloway*

### *joins Team USA*

We are very proud of our member Wes Holloway, who joined us 3 years ago as a young 16-year-old who needed to be reminded to bring a pump along on a ride.



Here he is after a satisfying finish in a 40 mile Criterium in the Embarcadero area in San Francisco. He competed in the CAT1/PRO Class and finished 11th out of about 150 riders.

We've since learned that Wes has been invited to join the USA National U23 Team! Wes is the youngest rider on Team USA.

# *Annual PWCC Santa Cruz Trip*

Thirteen happy cyclists convened in downtown Santa Cruz this fall to embark on five glorious riding days bathed in one of the best coastal Indian Summers ever. The first ride, an “out-of-towner,” began around 25 miles north of town, on Gazos Creek Road, and wound through some very pretty countryside through the towns of Pescadero and San Gregorio. Most of the gang headed back through the town of La Honda, while a few who were greedy for some extra miles climbed through the sublime redwood forest of Tunitas Creek Road before joining the return route.



*A brief stop before heading back down the coast for lunch*

Every ride after that could have begun right at our doorstep, although most chose to drive to the starting point. Each day brought toasty autumn sunshine when we weren't traveling through redwood groves. Fabulous, shady climbs and soaring descents defined the week, which ended with some sprinkles just in time for us all to pack up for home.

This was our second trip to Santa Cruz, and we're convinced that it will make a great annual retreat. If you're interested in any of the routes we traveled, you can contact Joe Conway at [bodegajoe@comcast.net](mailto:bodegajoe@comcast.net). Look for next year's plans on the web site, and clear your schedule for early October 2012!

## *Want a Jersey?*

We have a pretty decent supply of short-sleeved jerseys, one long-sleeve, 3 pairs of PWCC arm warmers (size small; so they won't roll down). Contact David Hinds at [davidrhinds2@aol.com](mailto:davidrhinds2@aol.com) for information and to arrange to go try some on at his office in Petaluma.

Members pay \$75 for a short-sleeved jersey, \$70 for a vest, \$79 for a long-sleeved jersey (large only), \$109 for a jacket (large and small only), \$30 for arm warmers. The price is slightly higher for non-members. Not sure of your size? Just try a few on.

## *SOS Roads*

Members Judy Shubin and Michael Troy have joined with other concerned citizens to form an advocacy committee called *SOS Roads* (Save Our Sonoma Roads). As you may have read in the Press Democrat, the County's policy, due to budget shortfall, is to only preserve 219 miles of primary roads, leaving the other 1,100 miles to deteriorate to gravel. SOS Roads is a citizen's group whose purpose is to inform the public on the crisis facing our roads and to influence policy makers to preserve and rehabilitate our road infrastructure. Go to [www.SOSroads.org](http://www.SOSroads.org) to learn more and to find out how to help.

## *New Bike Path in Petaluma*

A nice new bike and pedestrian path is open on Petaluma's eastside. It is a 12 foot wide concrete path that connects to the existing Petaluma River/Lynch Creek/Highway 101 underpath at Lynch Creek Way and North McDowell Blvd. From here it crosses North McDowell at the traffic light at Lynch Creek Way/Petaluma Valley Hospital, traverses the northern perimeter of the Petaluma Community Center and continues on to cross Maria Drive to Sonoma Mt. Parkway. Use the traffic light at Monroe St. to cross Sonoma Mt. Parkway and pick up another path or travel north.

This path is a convenient way to cycle to many eastside destinations, as well as up to Cotati and Penngrove, avoiding the congestion of Old Redwood Highway.