What’s New with Valley Spokesmen

The Valley Spokesmen is not just a road biking club. The club organizes weekly mountain bike rides as well as hiking and camping trips, progressive dinners and other fun and interesting events. Every year members plan and/or participate in adventure cycling events such as Cycle Oregon, Ride Idaho, RAGBRAI, Seattle to Portland and others. Members travel outside the country as well to Europe and currently, Southeast Asia for organized bike travel. Valley Spokesmen is also very involved in bicycle advocacy. As a member of Bike East Bay, they contribute funding, volunteers and voters on behalf of safe and accessible bike routes throughout the East Bay. Whether you want to ride for fun, workout or training, there are people of your ability to ride with. The website is collecting an impressive collection of rides with printable route sheets, or downloadable GPS routes. If you’re looking for reasons to get outdoors, Valley Spokesmen has plenty. See you out there!!

Scan this code with your QR reader application on your smart phone to go to our website!

www.ValleySpokesmen.org
Cinderella Classic
40th Anniversary

Perhaps the thing that the Valley Spokesmen is known for best is the Cinderella Classic. This year marks the 40th anniversary of what is probably the oldest women’s-only bicycling event in the country. Started years ago as a way to get more women involved in cycling, the ride has evolved from a (literally) family-run event by Bob and Bonnie Powers and their kids, to requiring dozens of volunteers, vehicles and increasingly complicated logistics. The Cinderella Classic (and the newer Cinderella Challenge - an 85 mi hillier option) is a completely supported event. Volunteers will greet you at check-in and help you get ready to hit the road. Along the route, SAG vehicles will assist with mechanical issues and flat tires, as well as providing for rider safety. In the event that a rider can’t finish the race, SAG support will bring them back to the start (with their bike, of course)! The event can accommodate 2,500 participants and covers 65 miles though the Tri-Valley area. Beginning at the Alameda County Fairgrounds, riders travel down Foothill Rd towards Sunol, then wind their way through the streets of Pleasanton, arriving at their first rest stop 17 miles later in Robertson Park in Livermore. Getting back on the road, they start towards the vineyards and up the moderate climb of Cross Rd. Heading down Patterson Pass Road, they make their way to Christensen School for a fabulous lunch (with vegetarian and vegan options!) and a quick rest. The next section proceeds through the scenic roads north of Livermore and onto Camino Tassajara. Another moderate climb and riders enter Danville for a lovely descent down Camino Tassajara Rd. One last rest stop and the riders head out for the final 15 miles before reaching the finish. There they find more great food and a wonderful vendor show with many options to buy clothing and gear. Cinderella Classic is an event that is enjoyed by women of all ages, families, siblings and friends. To honor its name, many women don costumes of varying fabulousness and wear them proudly. Some make it an annual event and the focus of their training. Fitness centers and bike clubs train specifically for Cinderella, and you may see many of them out on the roads right now preparing. Valley Spokesmen’s own Feather Pedals group was formed just for the purpose of getting beginning women riders ready for their first metric century; The Cinderella Classic.

Spaces are still available in the event. For registration, go to http://valleyspokesmen.org/cinderellaclassic.
Upcoming Valley Spokesmen Events

Mt. Hamilton to Livermore
March 19, 2016
Public Event

Cinderella Classic and Challenge
April 9, 2016
http://valleyspokesmen.org/cinderellaclassic
Public Event

Bicycle Swap Meet - Sellers welcome
April 10, 2016
Wells Middle School, Dublin
Bob or Bonnie Powers (925) 828-5299
Public Event

Wente Road Race
April 24th, 2016
Livermore, CA
https://www.bikereg.com/29th-annual-wente-vineyards-classic-road-race
Public Event

Paso Robles Ride to the Great Western Bike Rally
May 25-27, 2016 (longer coastal route available)
Bob or Bonnie Powers (925) 828-5299
Members Only

Quarterly Club Meeting
Wed. June 1, 2016
New Members Welcome
6:30 Pizza and 7pm Meeting
Round Table Pizza, Dublin

Kayaking Elkhorn Slough
Sunday, June 5, 2016 10:00 am
Jane Moorhead jane_moorhead@mac.com
Public Event

Make sure to check the calendar for updates and additions!
ValleySpokesmen.org/ridecalendar

29th Annual Wente Road Race
Exciting Changes For 2016!

This year’s Wente Road Race will be held in the hills of east Livermore on Sunday, April 24th. Registration and parking are moving to Wente Vineyards on Tesla Rd. and will feature live music and a designated picnic area. This challenging race has the traditional long and new short routes, both of which start at Greenville and Tesla Roads. The short course is less hilly, but the long route is still there to challenge the climbers in the field. The finish line has been moved near the front of Martinelli Winery, providing for better spectator options. Sponsored by Livermore Cyclery and the Valley Spokesmen Race Team this event is open to racers of all levels. Information on the event, as well as registration, can be found here: https://www.bikereg.com/29th-annual-wente-vineyards-classic-road-race

Safety Message

As a cycling club, we acknowledge the inherent dangers of the sport and will continue to do everything we can to improve the safety of our riders. One of the ways we do that is to advocate for safe streets and trails. Additionally, all cyclists on VS rides are required to wear helmets. We also recommend high visibility clothes and front and rear facing lights. Be aware of your surroundings and ride safely in groups. We cannot eliminate all hazards, but we will do what we can to reduce them, and to ride in a safe, legal manner. Everyone who rides knows someone who has been injured on a bike. Let’s try to keep those numbers low.

Be Safe Be Seen

Register online and become a Valley Spokesmen member today!
Go to www.ValleySpokesmen.org
Join the Valley Spokesmen Bicycle Club and enjoy these benefits:

- Access to a wide variety of fun club events, tours, and post-ride socials.
- Discounts at many local bicycle shops with your VS Membership Card.
- Preferential registration to: The Cinderella Classic and TOSRD (Tour Of the Sacramento River Delta).
- Invitation to our Mid-Winter Party: dinner, dancing, camaraderie, awards and fun.
- Participation in our annual Paso Robles Tour and other club biking adventures.
- Online Membership enables access to "Member's Only" pages that provide a Directory of club members, online marketplace and other important information.
- Club members are eligible to participate in the VS e-mail list to chat about club events, rides, and other social activities. The VSList is a great resource for on-line, timely info.
- Feather Pedals - This branch of VS prepares new and experienced riders for the Cinderella Classic and Challenge events.

Who Are Valley Spokesmen?

Valley Spokesmen was founded in 1971 by a group of local cyclists interested in perpetuating the cycling culture and encouraging family cycling in the Tri-Valley. Forty-five years later the Club is a leader in bicycle advocacy, accessibility and miles ridden! Valley Spokesmen has group road and mountain bike rides 7 days a week for riders of all levels. Although most of the rides are in the East Bay, the Club does many rides a year throughout the Bay Area and Central Valley. They are well known for the Cinderella Classic, catering to women riders, and their conditioning group, Feather Pedals that trains new riders for that event. In April the club sponsors the annual Wente Road Race and Criterium in Livermore, a premier cycling competition. In the fall the Tour of the Sacramento River Delta provides a weekend ride to experience the seldom seen (for many) beauties of the Delta. December brings holiday themed events including participation in parades. Other events include a ride to Paso Robles for the Great Western Bike Rally, as well as adventure bicycle trips and vacations. We welcome riders of all levels to come explore with us!