**NEW HAIRCUT, NEW MAN, NEW SCCCC PRESIDENT***Bedal Kicks Off Retirement With Two Year Commitment To Club*

By Eileen Beaudry

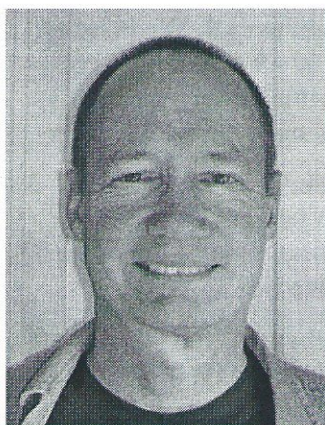
**YES, IT'S OFFICIAL,
FOLKS; WE HAVE A
NEW CLUB
PRESIDENT!**

The strength of our wonderful cycling club is due, in part, to our members' willingness to serve in the club's various leadership roles. We are fortunate to continue our long tradition of strong leadership in the presidential seat with our latest member stepping up, Richard William Bedal. Along with other new club officers, Richard will swear to uphold official duties beginning January 2005. But you may be wondering, just who is this quiet sunny cyclist of few words? And what are his plans for the club?

**RICHARD BEDAL-
BACKGROUND**

Richard hails from a family of four boys and grew up in Santa Monica. He developed early leadership skills while participating in the Boy Scouts Order of the Arrow. He also worked as a lifeguard and was elected president of his senior class. Richard decided to get his undergraduate degree in business management at San Jose State. While working as

a hasher at a boarding house he spotted a young woman named Martha, and was immediately smitten. He played it cool since she was dating someone else but eventually Richard won out. It's a classic story with a happy ending. They were married July 1968.

**CAREER.**

From his humble beginnings in typical college jobs such as house painter, lamp factory worker, and Caltrans survey crew member, Richard aspired to the law. After graduating from San Jose State, he attended law school at Loyola University in LA. Richard completed his law degree and then landed a job in the Santa

Cruz superior court as a law clerk. While waiting to pass the bar, he got a low draft number and decided to join the reserves. He went through basic training and served six years. After he passed the bar he went into private practice and opened an office on Mission Street. [It's now the office of Dr. Kuo, the ophthalmologist.] As time went by new opportunities presented themselves and Richard became the Assistant County Clerk for Santa Cruz County. He stayed there 5-6 years before running for County Clerk/Recorder, a position that he held for 28 years. During that time, his workload doubled when his position was consolidated with that of the Treasurer/Tax Collector. Richard officially retired in July 2004. Continued on Page 4

**General Club
Meeting**

Simpkins Swim Center
Jan. 26, 2005, 7-9 pm

PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND

Overnight to HARBIN HOT SPRINGS for cycling, soaking, camping and climbing. Please call Scott Campbell @ 831.479.3575 or Frank & Vita Pritchard @ 831.477.1736 for details.

Bicycling Skills Class 2005

Bicycling Skills Class, a five - week course on cycling will begin on Friday, January 28. It will have five evening sessions, covering the basic science of road bike riding, and five Sunday bike rides. people of all ages to enroll in cycling for health, fitness, adventure as well as a cleaner environment and better world. Please note: A working bicycle and helmet are required for the class A \$20 fee is due on the first class session.

Instructor: Vita Pritchard (831.477.1736 or frankandvita@cs.com), a SCCCC member, has over 15 years of cycling experience and international travel. She will share her insights on bicycling safety, excitement and life style. To sign up for the class, please contact Vita at frankandvita@cs.com or call: 831.477-1736.

Bicycling Skills Class 2005 Class Schedule

(Included are the month, date, day, time, location and class activity.)

**January 28, Friday, 7:30
- 9 p.m.** 979 17th Ave.,
Simpkins Swim Center:
Intro. Santa Cruz Health,
adventure & travel.

**January 30, Sunday,
10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Simpkins Swim Center:
Bike ride.

**February 4, Friday, 7:30
- 9 p.m.** Simpkins Swim
Center: Safety, clothing &
basic equipment.

**February 6, Sunday,
10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Simpkins Swim Center:
Bike ride.

**February 9, Wednesday,
7:30 - 9 p.m.** Simpkins
Swim Center: Safety
riding techniques.

**February 13, Sunday,
10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Location to be announced:
Bike ride.

**February 16,
Wednesday, 7:30 - 9 p.m.**
Simpkins Swim Center

Bike: maintenance &
repairs.

**February 20, Sunday,
10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Location to be announced:
Bike ride.

**February 23,
Wednesday, 7:30 - 9 p.m.**
Simpkins Swim Center:
Bike fit & adjustments.

**February 27, Sunday,
10:00 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
Location to be announced:
Bike ride.

Cyclists for Cultural Exchange

CCE Cordially invites everyone to join them on Saturday, February 5 @ 8:30 am before the club ride for breakfast at Chaminade in appreciation for your support of Strawberry Fields Forever. We need RSVP's for breakfast!! (831.477.1736 or email info@strawberryfields.org. (Rain will cancel the ride but we'll have breakfast regardless.)

WEDNESDAY 9:30 am BEGINNER RIDES:

Beginner rides starting on February 16, 2005, and every Wednesday following, at 9:30 am. Rides begin with distances less than 10 miles on flat terrain, and we will work up to 25 miles with some hills over a period of 2 months. You will gradually increase your strength and endurance with a long-term goal of longer distances and greater elevation gains. Rides are for anyone 18 years old and older, and riders are required to have a working bicycle and a helmet – lycra is not required. Please bring water, a snack or money for a snack. Rides begin at Lighthouse Field State Park Restroom Parking Lot. (After the first meeting the start location may vary, please call for an update). We will talk safety, ride, stop for a coffee break, and return to the start between 12:30 and 1:30. For information, please contact Martha Bedal @ 460.1818 or marthab@cruzio.com.

CLUB RIDE SCHEDULE: JANUARY – MARCH 2005

Jan 15, Saturday, Winter

Inland Ride: Begins on the corner of Watsonville Rd. & Burchell Rd. in Gilroy @ 9:00am. Carpool from CCC @ 8:15am. Destination is Morgan Hill via Chesbro and Uvas reservoirs: Route covers some of Tierra Bella ride. Lunch in Morgan Hill. A=35mi, B&C=50-60 miles.

Leader: Charley

Fisher.....425-3559

Jan 22, Saturday,

Eureka Canyon: Meet at CCC @ 9 a.m.

A=35mi/1000',

B&C=60mi/2800'. Lunch at the Summit Store: It can be chilly on Highland, bring warm clothes.

Leader: Tim

McCloskey.....458-9860

Jan 29, Saturday, Mt.

Diablo: Carpool meets at CCC @ 7:45 a.m. Start location is yet to be determined, call leaders or check e-mail list for update. A=20mi/1000', B=35mi/3000', C=50mi/4000'

Leaders: Frank & Vita
Pritchard..... 477-1736

Feb 5, Saturday, UCSC

& the Hills: Starts from CCC @ 10:30 a.m.

A=25mi/600',

B=35mi/1200',

C=50mi.2000'

Leader: Mike

Andalora.....247-9722

Feb 12, Saturday, Over

Hill and Dale: Start from Scotts Valley Transit Center (King's Village Rd.) @ 9:30 a.m. A = 25 mi/2000' and B = 40 mi/4200'. Most of the ride is on rural roads. Bring plenty of food and water, lunch @ Tucson Taqueria after ride.

Leader: Scott

Campbell.....479-3575

Feb 19, Saturday,

Monterey: Meet in Castroville at the start of the bike path at 9:15 am. (Take Hwy 183 south thru Castroville & take 1st right after crossing over Hwy 156; Haro St. @ Union 76 gas station) Carpool from CCC @ 8:30 a.m.

Destination Veterans Park in Monterey & Skyline Drive. Lunch in Monterey or bring own.

A=31mi/350ft,

B=38mi/1400ft,

C=45mi/1800ft.

Leader: Herb

Greenfield.....685-8914

Feb 26, Saturday, Ducky

Deli & Gizditch: Start at CCC @ 8:30 for B/C riders ~60/70 miles 3,000'. Starts @ 5 Mile House for A riders at 9:30 ~40 miles 1,500' (park behind shops in lot off Corralitos Rd) Ride to Ducky Deli for lunch with a stop a Gizdich for pie on the way home.

Leader: Bart

Coddington.....475-5234

March 5, Saturday, Pescadero & Half Moon

Bay: Carpool meets at CCC @ 8 a.m. Start from Pescadero @ 9 a.m. (church parking lot at north end of town) A=25mi/1000', B=45mi/2500', C=55mi/3500'

Leader: Shalom

Compost.....423-7871

Saturday, March 12, Monterey Bike Path and

Ft. Ord. Start at Pezzini Produce Stand @ 9 a.m. and park on the road: take the Nashua Rd. exit below Castroville, go over the freeway and it's on the right. Carpool at CCC @ 8:30a.m. A=20mi/500', B=35mi/1000', C=50mi/1500'

Leader: Charley Fisher...

.....425 3559

March 19, Saturday, Upper Salinas Valley:

Carpool meets at CCC @ 8 a.m. Ride starts from the intersection of Crazy Horse road and Old San Juan road 9 a.m. (Take Crazy Horse left turn off 101 to intersection.) This is probably our flattest ride: A=25 mi/200', B=45mi/500', C=60mi/700'

Leader:

Ric Eiserling.....475-5397

Looking back on his career with the County, Richard says that he loved it because it gave him great satisfaction to assist the public during elections and tax season. He was pleased to be able to make the tax bill more informative and to modernize services by making taxes payable on-line. He appreciated his professional staff, especially his five key managers whom he says did all the work! Since he lived just a few miles from his former employer, he had no commute to speak of and was able to be active in his children's school activities, even coaching his son's soccer team.

RETIREMENT PLANS: His two main activities will be finishing the remodel and serving as club president. In addition, he and Martha are planning a two-week cycling trip from Santa Cruz to Phoenix to mark Richard's 60th birthday in April 2005. This continues his tradition of celebrating milestone birthdays with bike tours: at 50 he rode from Santa Cruz to Santa Barbara, and at 55 he did the CA Aids Ride from San Francisco to LA.

INTRO TO BIKING: Richard was a runner prior to his cycling life. He ran to keep in shape and also did 10Ks. Unfortunately he hurt his back and the doctor said, "No more running for you!" Being the unusual man that he is, Richard actually listened to his doctor and at age 50, a mere nine years ago, Richard ceased running and took up cycling in earnest. Eventually he and Martha met SCCCC folks and became active with the club.

FAVORITE RIDE. Richard loves the ride to Monterey because the trail is great and it takes one along gorgeous scenery such as Lovers Point.

PLANS AS CLUB PRESIDENT: Friends warned Richard not to take on any volunteer positions post-retirement because he would end up busier than before. So he steeled his resolve and was routinely turning down offers when our earnest election committee person Lilly Ann Popken broke through his resolve. She laid it out plain and simple. Wouldn't he like to enter into the playtime of his adult life by focusing the club on fun, fun, fun? Richard admitted she had some good points, and happily he accepted. He

would like to see the club grow in numbers and adopt one charitable ride that we would support through our participation each year. He would also like to see the Mts. Challenge Ride increase in fame. This latter item may be accomplished, in part, by getting a name with the equivalent punch of "The Death Ride." If you have any suggestions please e-mail them to Richard.

HOBBIES. Richard's biggest hobby is the ongoing home remodel. He's also taking up digital photography, making slideshows with musical accompaniment. So far these slideshows focus on his gorgeous granddaughter, Luana.

GREATEST ADVENTURES: Of late, it was the bicycle tour through Spain with Leo. His favorite day of the trip was the cold, rainy day that really challenged the group to stick it out. This was not the first time that he cycled through Europe though. In 1962, the summer after high school, Richard headed over to Europe on ship full of teenagers who were all touring through Europe. He visited his brother who was stationed in France, borrowed his brother's bicycle and headed off on a great adventure. He saw several countries including France, Switzerland and Denmark, staying at youth hostels for twenty-five cents a night.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS. Raising two children, Louie and Monica, who turned out well. Son Louie and daughter-in-law Andrea live in Hawaii with Richard's granddaughter, Luana. Daughter Monica lives in the Ojai Valley

PERSONAL HERO. Richard feels that his mother has been key to his success in life. She's been a great source of encouragement to him. One example is that she encouraged him to take that bike trip to Europe after high school. She passed away while he was in college.

PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET: Harry Truman, Will Rodgers.

TWO FAVORITE MOVIES: Princess Bride, Better Off Dead.

Team Santa Cruz 2004 Cyclocross Season Report by Barnaby Lee

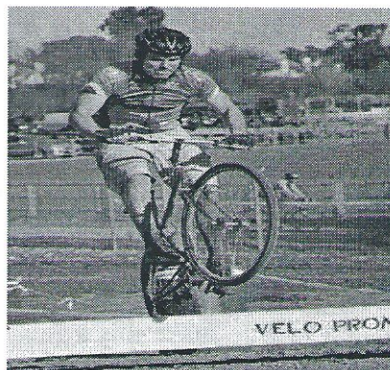
The cyclocross season has come to a close, and Team Santa Cruz has had an excellent season! A few team racers finished in the overall points of this year's two northern California race series: The Pilarcitos and Central Coast Cyclocross Series. Riders accumulate points based on their race performance in each race, and a prize is awarded to the riders who have done well over the course of the series. I will highlight some of our team racers and their overall series standings.

The Central Coast Cyclocross (CCCX) series held its first race at Fort Ord East Garrison, proving to be a great opening to local cyclocross. Jeff Bronack, longtime teammate, has good reason to be happy in his performance in this series, particularly since he had returned from a year hiatus. Jeff has ridden consistently in the Men's B category and has always placed in the top 10. It has been very exciting to watch him come back and ride strongly with the other racers in his category – which is a very fast group of racers. During the first CCCX race, Jeff attacked close to the end of the race and gained enough time to hold the field off by five seconds. This earned him an auspicious second place while helping him lay the foundation for third place in the race series.

First year team rider, Jeremy Milburn, participated in his first race in the Men's C category at CCCX and won tenth place! His post race smile made it clear that he had enjoyed discovering a new form of bicycle racing!

Melinda Jones placed fifth in the Women B's category, while Mike Martin respectively placed sixth in the Single Speed category. Mike is one of the loonies racer and insists on riding over obstacles that require technique, as you can see from the photo taken at the District Championships in Livermore.

Norman Field found his racing form coming around quite well by the fourth CCCX race. His ninth place in the Men's B race was the best result for the team on that day. At the third race, David Gill took a break from his



scoring duties to take the win over longtime compadre, Casey O'Brien, in the Masters B race. David's cycling skills over the last set of obstacles enabled him to stave off O'Brien's quick sprint. The overall series points show that consistency can pay off! Team members Philip Sims, Steve Clifton and Grant Stoner all were in the top 20 in their categories. Sim's points are particularly worthy of recognition as the Master A 35+ category is extremely competitive.

The Pilarcitos Cyclocross Series had its last race of the season early in December. David Gill played his consistency card well, and finished the series in 16th overall. Just three points ahead of teammate, Philip! Karen Loutzenheiser had an excellent race at the Candlestick Point race in this series, placing third in her category.

The cyclocross season also had a few races that were not part of the two series. In the spirit of the Surf City Series, the Velo Bella Team promoted one race and team rider Steve Clifton won the Master B 45+ race at this very festive event! In Portland, Oregon at Cyclocross Nationals, David Gill shined at what he felt was his best race of the season, placing 27th of 116 very competitive racers. Thank you to all the team racers and support staff that made this cyclocross season successful!

Letter from the SCCCC President, Richard Bedal:

It's December, the deadline for property taxes and articles for the January newsletter. It is too early to write about New Year's Resolutions and I'm not actually Club President yet (they are still counting the ballots), but need to write as though I am. Well, I hope all of you had a safe and sane New Year's Eve and that your resolutions include more biking and participation in Club activities.

Speaking of Club activities, be sure to thank all the members who make this a fun and active Club. The Officers certainly did a great job but don't forget: the ride leaders who make the rides challenging and rewarding both physically and visually; the newsletter editor who has to coax articles

out of procrastinators; the Mountain Challenge volunteers who continue to make a great event every year; the racing team who do us proud; the social directors who have organized numerous fun events; and the organizers of the quarterly meetings with the informative and interesting presentations.

I, for one, am looking forward to this coming year—a year of club growth and continued improvement of the Mountain Challenge to a premier event. A new year to meet new biking friends, discover new roads and trails, and a year of riding more miles than I did last year! A year of recognizing how fortunate we are, where we live and what we have.

DO YOU ENCOUNTER BIKE HAZARDS YOU'D LIKE TO REPORT?

Whether it's on your commute or recreational outing, the bike hazards you encounter on the road impact others. You can report bike lane hazards or other roadway obstructions to the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission. RTC staff will forward your complaint to the appropriate local jurisdiction and monitor the issue's resolution. Bike Hazard forms are available on the RTC's web site: www.sccrtc.org/pdf/bikehazr.pdf, or call (831) 460-3200 to get a form sent or faxed to you.

FREE BIKE RACKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) wants to provide secure bike parking to businesses, employers and/or public places. The RTC offers free bicycle parking racks or subsidies towards the cost of bike lockers. (Installations are to be provided by the applicant.) For more information, please call Cory Caletti, the RTC's Bicycle Coordinator, at 831.460.3201 or email at ccaletti@sccrtc.org.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY'S NEW CHP CAPTAIN

Christina Manriquez, will be attending the SCCRTC's Bicycle Committee Meeting to discuss issues of concern to cyclists. Topics may include ways the CHP can ensure the safety of cyclists on the roadway, CHP policy on cars parked in the bike lane, among others. Cycling Club members are invited to attend and share your concerns.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 15, 2005, 7 p.m. at the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission, 1523 Pacific Avenue in Downtown Santa Cruz
For more information, please call Cory Caletti at 831.460.3201.

GENERAL SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CYCLING CLUB MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Meetings are held at the Simpkins Swim Center

April 27, 2005, 7 – 9 pm

July 27, 2005, 7 – 9 pm

October 26, 2005, 7 – 9 pm

For more information regarding the Santa Cruz County Cycling Club, please check out our website: www.santacruzcycling.org

Local Bicycle Shops

These shops are supporting our bicycle club with discounts on bicycling accessories. Discounts vary by shop, but generally run 10% off the regular price. Ask the sales clerk if they offer bicycle club discounts.

Another Bike Shop
2361 Mission St., Santa Cruz
427-2232
Open 7 days • Hours 9 — 5

Mr. E's Cyclery
8059 Aptos St., Aptos
662-2973
Open 7 days • Hours 9 — 5

Aptos Bike Trail
7556 Soquel Dr., Aptos
688-8650
*Hours 9 — 5
Bike rentals*

The Santa Cruz Bicycle Shop
1325 Mission St., Santa Cruz
454-0909
*Open 7 days • Hours 9 — 5
New & Used • Trades • Rentals*

The Bicycle Trip
1127 Soquel Ave., Santa Cruz
427-2580
*Mon. — Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 10-5
Free Maintenance Classes*

Scotts Valley Cyclesport
245 Mount Hermon Rd., Scotts Valley
440-9070
*Tue. — Fri. 10-6 • Sat. 10-5 • Sun. 12-5
Road • Mountain • Cyclo-X • BMX • Cruisers • Kids*

Bike Station
9515 Soquel Dr. #102, Aptos
688-4169
*Mon. — Fri. 10 — 5 • Sat. 10 — 3
Road, Tri, Comfort, MTB, and Kids Bikes*



The Spokesman Bicycles
231 Cathcart St., Santa Cruz
429-6062
*Mon., Wed. — Sat. 10-6 • Tue. 12-6 • Sun. 12-5
Road • Mountain • Tri • BMX*

Bill's Bike Repair
2628 Soquel Dr., Santa Cruz
477-0511
Tue. — Fri. 11 — 5

Sprockets
1420 Mission St., Santa Cruz
426-7623
*Tue. — Fri. 10-6 • Sat. 10-5 • Sun. 12-5
Road • Mountain • Tandem*

Cycle Works
1203 41st Ave., Capitola
476-7092
*Open 7 days • Hours 9 — 5
New & Used — Trade-ins Welcome*

The Bike Coop
1156 High St., Santa Cruz
457-8281
Open 7 days • Hours 9 — 5

Dave's Custom Bikes
910 Soquel Ave., Santa Cruz
423-8923
Open 7 days • Hours 10 — 5

Trey's True Wheels
1431 Main St., Watsonville
786-0200
Tue. — Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 10-4

Family Cycling Center
912 41st Ave., Santa Cruz
475-3883
*Mon. — Sat. 10-6 • Sun. 10-5
Cruisers • City Bikes • Mountain • Trailers • Rentals*

DATED MATERIAL

Santa Cruz County Cycling Club
P.O. Box 8342
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-8342

