



# Shasta Wheelmen Newsletters

A REDDING CALIFORNIA BICYCLE CLUB DEVOTED TO THE ENJOYMENT OF CYCLING

October 2011

This newsletter is published monthly by the Shasta Wheelmen, Inc., a Redding, California bicycle club dedicated to promoting interest in all aspects of bicycling.

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Club meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at Upper Crust Pizza 2727 Churn Creek Road, Redding CA

## Sharing the Road

“Every person riding a bicycle upon a highway has all the rights and is subject to all the provisions applicable to the driver of a vehicle.”—*California Vehicle Code Sec. 21200*

Below is a summary of the California Vehicle Code sections related to bicycles, bicycling and bicyclists—essential reading for anyone who rides a bike in California. To read specific CVC provisions, follow the links in the text.

## Rights and responsibilities

Bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as motor vehicle drivers. *CVC 21200*

## Where you can ride

**1. Roadway:** Bicyclists traveling slower than the normal speed of traffic must ride as close to the right side of the road as practicable, except when passing, preparing for a left turn, avoiding hazards, or if the lane is too narrow. *CVC 21202*

**2. Bicycle lanes:** On a roadway with a bike lane, bicyclists traveling slower than traffic must use the bike lane except when making a left turn, passing, avoiding hazardous conditions, or approaching a place where a right turn is authorized. *CVC 21208*

**3. Direction of travel:** Bicyclists must travel on the right side of the roadway in the direction of traffic, except when passing, making a legal left turn, riding on a one-way street, riding on a road that is too narrow, or when the right side of the road is closed due to road construction. *CVC 21650*

**4. Motorized bicycles:** Motorized bicycles may not be used on trails, bike

path or lanes unless allowed by local authorities. *CVC 21207.5*

**5. Bike path obstruction:** No one may stop on or park a bicycle on a bicycle path. *CVC 21211*

**6. Sidewalks:** Individual cities and counties control whether bicyclists may ride on sidewalks. *CVC 21206*

**7. Freeways:** Bicycles (including motorized bicycles) may not be ridden on freeways and expressways where prohibited by the California Department of Transportation and local authorities. *CVC 21960*

**8. Toll bridges:** Bicyclists may not cross a toll bridge unless permitted by the California Department of Transportation. *CVC 23330*

## Equipping your bicycle

**1. Brakes:** Bicycles must be equipped with a brake that allows an operator to execute a one-braked-wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement. *CVC 21201(a)*

**2. Handlebars:** Handlebars must not be higher than the rider's shoulders. *CVC 21201(b)*

**3. Bicycle size:** Bicycles must be small enough for the rider to stop, support it with one foot on the ground, and start safely. *CVC 21201(c)*

**4. Lights:** At night a white headlight visible from the front must be attached to the bicycle or the bicyclist. *CVC 21201(d) and CVC 21201(e)*

**5. Reflectors:** At night bicycles must have the following reflectors:

Visible from the back: red reflector

Visible from the front & back: white or yellow reflector on each pedal, shoe or ankle

Visible from the side: 1) white or yellow reflector on the front half of the

(Continued on page 3)

# October Ride Schedule

~ October 2011 ~						
◀ September						November ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1 <u>United Way Century</u></b> Sundial bridge Linda Cannar 347-9731 <b>2 <u>Mt Shasta to Doris Ride</u></b> John Crowe 275-3930 <b>3 <u>Knociti Challenge</u></b> Ron Prior 244-4820
<b>2 <u>Gaia Swan Song Breakfast Ride</u></b> 8:00 AM Westwood Village Maggie Fournier 246-7352 Ride to the Woodside Grill for a hearty buffet and return via Happy Valley and the Clear Creek Gorge 38 miles/C+	<b>3</b>	<b>4 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Bridge Bay via 44, Canby, Churn Creek, Old Ore Trail, Wonderland, I-5 to Bridge Bay. 38 Miles/C+	<b>5</b>	<b>6 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Old Shasta via River Trail Middle Creek, Iron Mountain, Rock Creek, granite, 33 Miles/C+	<b>7</b>	<b>8 <u>Steve's Flat Fun Friendly Eastside Tour</u></b> 8:00 AM Holiday Market @Shasta View Steve Osborn 351-1544 This route has been chosen to be enjoyed by all. 45 miles/C-
<b>9 <u>Lions Club Breakfast Ride</u></b> 8:00 AM Walmart in Anderson Keith Arnett 365-4210 Ride to Cottonwood for breakfast and choose your return route 10-45 miles/C=C+	<b>10</b>	<b>11 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Shasta Lake via Park Marina, 44, Candy, Churn Creek, Twin View, Pine Grove, Cascade, Shasta Dam, Lake, cross dam, return on river trail 35 Miles/B	<b>12</b>	<b>13 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Iron Mtn Mine via Texas Springs, Placer, "The Hood" Swasey Red Bluff to Old Shasta, , Granite, Rock Creek, Iron Mountain Rd. to "The Gate" 33-40 Miles/B-	<b>14</b>	<b>15 <u>Mt Lassen Loop</u></b> 7:00 AM Black Butte Store Dan Martin 347-9636 100 miles of beautiful scenery and a challenging climb. 100 Miles/ A- Shorter version starts at Manzanita Lake at 9:00Am 60 Miles/B <u>Leaderless Ride #23</u>
<b>16 <u>Happy Valley Lions Club Breakfast Ride</u></b> 8:00 AM Westwood Village Steve Osborn 351-1544 Ride to Happy Valley for breakfast and back 10-45 miles/C	<b>17</b>	<b>18 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Jones Valley/ Silverthorn via 44, Browning, Old Alturas, Deschuttas, Dry Creek to Silverthorn. Return by way of Bear Mountain Rd 40Miles/B	<b>19</b>	<b>20 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Palo Cedro via Park Marina, 44, Browning, Old Alturas, Deschuttas, Swede Creek, Old 44, to Palo Cedro. 35 Miles/C+	<b>21</b>	<b>22 <u>Earl's Chico Ride</u></b> 8:00 AM Walmart in Anderson Earl Talken 241-4011 Ride to Chico with Earl or Show and Go for those not wishing to go all the way to Chico 65 miles/C
<b>23 <u>Return from Chico Leaderless Ride</u></b> Earl Talken 241-4011 8:00 AM Sundial Bridge Destination chosen by consensus Mileage and rating varies Turn miles in to Doug Holt	<b>24</b>	<b>25 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Igo Ono via Free Bridge, Eastside, Girvan, Clear Creek to Ono Rainbow option Return Placer to Buenaventura, 299, West, Court, River trail 30-50 miles/C+/A	<b>26</b>	<b>27 <u>Leaderless Ride</u></b> 8:30 AM Coffee Creek Deli Olinda/ Anderson via Free Bridge, Eastside, Girvan,273, Canyon, China Gulch, Oak, Palm, Olive, Olinda Rd,to Anderson 36 Miles/C	<b>28</b>	<b>29 <u>Ron Prior's Cemetery Ride Part II</u></b> 8:30 Placer & Buenaventura Ron Prior 244-4820 Ron will lead us on a tour of lesser known grave sites around the county 35-40 Miles/C+
<b>30 <u>Rich's Eastside tour</u></b> 8:00 AM Palo Cedro park and ride Rich Robinson 241-9282 Ride the Eastside foothills with Rich. A shorter pumpkin patch tour is also available from the same location. 35 Miles/C 100 Miles/A-	<b>31</b>	<b>Notes: Ride ratings</b> <b>A: Steep, Lots of climbing for strong riders</b> <b>B: Steep to moderate, lots of climbing with some relief</b> <b>C: Moderate, some hills challenging to average rider</b> <b>D: Moderate to easy, may be challenging to beginners</b> <b>F: Very easy, leave the bike in the garage and have a cold one</b> <b>Helmets required on all rides</b> <b>Ride leaders send miles to:</b> <a href="mailto:Shastamiles.doug@yahoo.com">Shastamiles.doug@yahoo.com</a> or call 246-7429				

# Stop Handing Them the Stick

Reprinted from an article by  
Dave Moulton

It is now common for newspapers and TV news channels to have websites. News stories and articles are published, and like blogs most allow comments from readers. I find it disturbing whenever a cycling related story is posted, it is inevitably followed by a stream of anti-cycling rhetoric. This usually draws counter comments from cyclists, often equally as venomous.

Still more anti-cycling BS follows, and so it goes on and on. Nothing good is achieved; if anything the two sides are driven further apart rather than seeing the other's point of view.

Recently I read this post from a TV news station in New Haven, Connecticut. Strictly speaking this was not a cycling story, but a business story about a business that hap-

pened to be a retail bike store.

I was dismayed when it drew the same anti-cycling comments from the general public. One responding to the report that the bike store had been broken into, stated, "I'm glad those liberal enablers got burglarized."

In this persons eyes not only should people not be allowed to ride bikes on the road but bike store owners are fair game for abuse, because they encourage and enable cycling.

To the credit of the website's administrators, at least one of the more hateful comments was removed. I read it earlier and it advocated running cyclists down in order to, quote, "Take back our roads."

Although every cyclist sees this type of comment coming from a viewpoint of ignorance and extreme prejudice, we have to realize our counter responses are probably viewed in exactly the same way.

One also has to realize the person you

respond to will never see your point of view, but a carefully worded, intelligent response will win over more moderate readers. It might be better to make a general statement rather than a response counter attacking an individual.

Cyclists are a minority group and as such will be judged by the worst behavior in our group. I can practically guarantee whenever a cycling related article appears, there will be at least one comment from someone that goes something like this:

"Cyclists seem to think they own the damn road, they never obey stop signs and lights."

To be fair, people do not make this kind of stuff up. People say things like this, and others will readily agree with them, because they have witnessed exactly this behavior from cyclists on many occasions.

I witnessed it myself just a few weeks ago. I was sitting at a light in my car at the end of a long line of vehicles.

A cyclist on a road bike, rode calmly up the outside of the row of cars, and with a cursory glance to the left and right, without slowing, rode across the busy six lane highway against the red light.

With assorted vehicles passing through at about 60mph (Speed limit is 55.) ranging from cars, SUVs, commercial trucks, and eighteen wheelers.

I'm sure like me, these drivers experienced a serious WTF moment as we watched this idiot on a bicycle, weave his way through traffic dodging between gaps in the flow. I wondered his reasoning, a death wish, or outright defiance simply because he could.

I might have chased him down to ask him, but he went straight, and I was in the left turn lane. Would it have inconvenienced this cyclist to wait in line for the green light like everyone else was obliged to do?

Sadly there were at least another twenty or more people waiting at the four corners of this busy intersection, also witnessing this brazen defiance of the law.

In an instant, one cyclist gave forty or more people a reason to hate cyclists.

I question whether we will see an end to this verbal and online beating up of cyclists, when there are those among us who keep handing our critics the stick with which to do it.

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## Sharing the Road (cont.)

bicycle and 2) a red or white reflector on each side of the back half of the bike. These reflectors are not required if the bike has reflectorized front and back tires. *CVC 21201(d)*

**6. Seats:** All riders must have a permanent, regular seat, unless the bicycle is designed by the manufacturer to be ridden without a seat. Bicycle passengers weighing less than 40 lbs. must have a seat which retains them in place and protects them from moving parts. *CVC 21204*

### Operating your bicycle

**1. Helmets:** Bicyclists and bicycle passengers under age 18 must wear an approved helmet when riding on a bicycle. *CVC 21212*

**2. Head phones:** Bicyclists may not wear earplugs in both ears or a headset covering both ears, except hearing aids. *CVC 27400*

**3. Alcohol and drugs:** Bicy-

clists may not ride while under the influence of alcohol or drugs. *CVC 21200.5*

**4. Hitching rides:** Bicyclists may not hitch rides on vehicles. *CVC 21203*

**5. Carrying articles:** Bicyclists may not carry items which keep them from using at least one hand upon the handlebars. *CVC 21205*

**6. Pedestrians:** Bicyclists must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians within marked crosswalks or within unmarked crosswalks at intersections. Bicyclists must also yield the right-of-way to totally or partially blind pedestrians carrying a predominantly white cane or using a guide dog. *CVC 21950 and CVC 21963*

**7. Parking:** Bicyclists may not leave bicycles on their sides on the sidewalk or park bicycles in a manner which obstructs pedestrians. *CVC 21210*

*Summary furnished by Jack Yerkes*