

"UPCOMING" BTCEB EVENTS

To RSVP, or check the calendar, click:

<http://www.meetup.com/bicycletrailscouncil/>

Gala Ride at Fernandez Ranch

Saturday, November 10, 2018

9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

We offer ride groups for ALL SKILL LEVELS, from novice to intermediate to advanced. All rides are 'no-drop' rides (we won't leave you behind or let you get lost) and are fully supported. A novice rider should be able to ride 8-10 miles on hilly fire roads for 2.5 hrs. We start gathering at 9:30am and hit the trails promptly at 9:45am. Join us for refreshments and snacks after the ride. Safety glasses are suggested. A well-tuned mountain bike is a must! RSVP:

<https://www.meetup.com/BicycleTrailsCouncil/events/ppsldpyxpbnb/>

Ride Like A Girl

Saturday, November 3, 2018

9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

TBD

The Bicycle Trails Council (BTC) hosts a women-only mtn bike ride on the first Saturday of the month. The intent of the ride is to have fun! and to meet other women who love to mtn bike. Check the BTCEB website for details and don't forget to RSVP (or unRSVP):

<https://www.meetup.com/BicycleTrailsCouncil/events/ptzsslyxpbfb/>

Popup Rides

by Mike Udkow, BTCEB President

BTCEB has many other smaller, less formal last-minute rides, known as "popups".

Just choose where you want to ride and send me the info and your cell number. I will post it on Meetup. Even if it's a place you're not familiar with but want to ride there, the group can figure it out (or get hopeless lost)! mikeudkow@gmail.com

Look for them at anytime on the Meetup page or subscribe to email notifications:

<https://www.meetup.com/BicycleTrailsCouncil/>

BTCEB via Facebook

Finally, if you want to hear about other last-minute news, such as demo rides, and volunteering opportunities, "like" and follow BTCEB's Facebook [Notification Page](#), and also request to join BTCEB's Facebook [Discussion Group](#).

REPORTS

**McCosker Parcel - Sibley
We Need Your Advocacy!**

By Tom Holub, BTCEB IT Chair

The EBRPD's purchase of the [McCosker parcel](#) will increase the amount of parkland available on the Eastbay through incorporation into [Sibley](#). Park management is hosting a final meeting scheduled for November 20th. The EBRPD Board will meet at 1:00PM that day but stay tuned via Meetup for last minute updates. BTCEB and NICA coaches and youth have already participated in a series of public meetings. This is where we have been encountering groups of "anti-access" folks, and we have read their public comment letters. They do not want to have to share their future access with mountain bikers. In contrast, you can support your cause and ensure fair treatment. Mountain bikers pay park-related parcel taxes just like everyone. Plus, riding can be a family affair. It is a great way to see the park, provides low-impact exercise, etc. Contact your [EBRPD director](#), and/or come to the November 20th meeting which will be announced on Meetup as soon as the details are finalized. This is a great opportunity to discuss potential new singletrack close to the city.



Support the Oakland Pump Track! by the editor

We are close to getting an Oakland pump track (OPT) at Joaquin Miller Park. It has required permitting, next will be the placement and forming of track soil, etc. This adds up costs, but the stakeholders, including BTCEB, have set up a [GoFundMe page](#) to help this become a reality. In days the site generated over \$10,000 of its \$15,000 goal. Over 150 people already donated funds. And you know what? We are still only at \$11,000. Keep it coming. And once we exceed the goal, it can only result in proper maintenance and an even better pump track for the kids! It is perfectly located at the very top of JMP. The pic below was posted by "Brah" online. Another online commenter by the login of "Mike-e" wrote: "A pump track will add some extra fun to the loop I do. I'll donate some money for that cause!" No doubt, it will be a great place for Eastbay youth to work out their energy through exercise, coordination, and positive social interactions by doing what they love to do. <https://www.gofundme.com/oakland-pump-track>



Gala Ride at Crockett by Mike Udkow, BTCEB President

October's ride was held at fabulous Crockett Hills (EBRPD). We had about 45 riders of varying riding abilities, but somehow everyone made the 14 miles of mostly single track back to the staging area for beer. Once again, we need to thank our ride leaders and sweepers who make these events possible. If you know the trails, please volunteer to lead a group at an upcoming Gala.



We also need to thank the hard working BTCEB trail crew lead by Henry, Scott, Yvette and Dave for keeping the trails in great shape. We all were treated to lots of fresh cow patties but there were NO COWS! As it turns out, Dave Kendall, the park supervisor had moved the cows out of the area the day before our ride (one report suggested he did this with his bare hands). Kidding aside, Manager Kendall hopes to keep the cattle off the trails during the rainy season. It would be great if those who ride Crockett or were at the Gala send a note of appreciation to the EBRPD staff for creating the miles of narrow trails, increasingly improving the condition of the park, and most importantly, keeping the cows off the trails when wet. I am sure they receive some complaint letters, but doubt they get many letters of appreciation!

Click below to send your lavish comments of praise and appreciation to:
dkendall@ebparks.org; dcunning@ebparks.org; sdougan@ebparks.org
David Kendall, Park Supervisor: dkendall@ebparks.org
Dan Cunning, Delta area manager: dcunning@ebparks.org
Sean Dougan, Trails Development: sdougan@ebparks.org



AND CHECK OUT FACEBOOK FOR THE PHOTO AND ARTICLE ABOUT THE SUGAR CITY BRIDGE THAT BTCEB CONSTRUCTED RIGHT AFTER THE GALA RIDE:

www.facebook.com/groups/BTCEB/

The next ride is on 11/10 at Fernandez Ranch.

Ride Like A Girl, October 2018 – China Camp State Park By Yvette Skinner

Fourteen dirt-loving ladies met at the Miwok Meadows of China Camp State Park to enjoy the beautiful trails above the San Pablo Bay. The meadows and marshes were cloaked in fog at the start of the day and the Fall air definitely had a chill to it.

We split into two groups, those who wanted to ride up to the Nike Tower (the former site of US military coastal defense systems) and those who wanted to stick with the traditional route. Ellen Wilson led the Tower

Team while Yvette Skinner swept on the climb up. The ride leader sets the pace and makes sure the riders behind take the right turns. The sweeper rides last to make sure no one had a wreck or a mechanical or got lost. The fire road climb to the Nike Tower was a grinder but the view of the Bay was spectacular. On the way down Ellen Wilson put Yvette Skinner in the lead because she is a confident descender.

The Tower Team were the first to return to the parking lot and they shared some high fives before hitting the road. Amy Arcus lead the Traditional Team and they came rolling in shortly thereafter, all smiles on everyone's face.



Friends of JMP Annual Meeting By Dan McAvoy, BTCEB Treasurer

Friends of Joaquin Miller Park (FOJMP) held their Annual meeting at the JMP Community Center on September 17, 2018. John Roberts and I attended the meeting representing BTCEB. Stan Dodson (see pic below) was on the agenda and was lauded for receiving the Jefferson Award for all the work that he has done in the park. Stan mentioned that Oakland Park Patrol and BTCEB have removed over 500 trees that were blocking trails. FOJMP has a budget of \$10,000 and some expenditures this year were for items such as tools and split rail fencing. A representative from the Oakland Police Department also spoke and attested that one of the biggest problems at the park was vandalism, specifically car windows being broken into and cars being ransacked. This seems to be a problem at many trailheads in East Bay Regional Park as well. His suggestion was to make sure nothing of interest be visible in the car, even an empty bag. My suggestion is that if you have anything of value put in into the trunk prior to arriving at the trailhead or parking lot. Bring only what you need to carry on your ride, such as ID, your keys, etc. Do not leave laptops, wallets, etc, behind. If you do have a problem with a break in, please report it to the City so that they might be inclined to provide more resources to the area.



EBMUD - 10/8/18

Trail Advisory Committee Meeting Writeup

By Yvette Skinner, BTCEB Vice President

Mike Udkow and I represent BTCEB and mountain bikers at these recurring meetings. The latest gathering included various stakeholders. Our purpose is to oversee the use of the first-ever Eastbay Municipal Utilities District (EBMUD) trails that are open to mountain bike use.

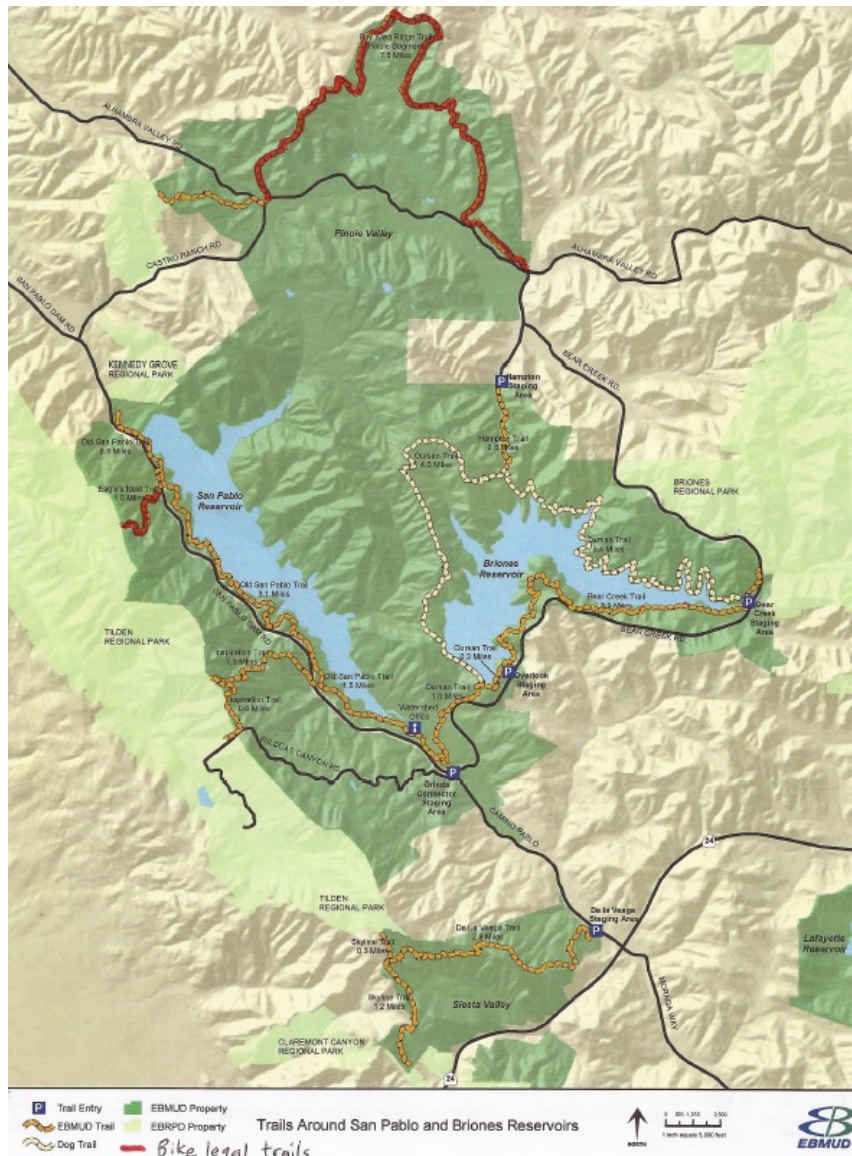
We were informed that some trails have video surveillance. All trail users must [buy a permit from EBMUD](#), and register themselves in a log at the trailhead when applicable.

Pinole Valley Trail – according to sign-in kiosks, in the last 3 months there have been 40+ hikers, 9 cyclists, and 3 equestrians. I mentioned that the section of the fire road that connects the “Fernandez Loop” has had much more use by cyclists but there is no tracking of use there (no kiosks and no cameras).

Eagle’s Nest Trail – There is no sign-in kiosk but the trail has a camera that can detect the number of people on the trail and differentiate between types of users. In the last 3 months there has been one cyclist tallied on this trail.

Trail Etiquette Handout – Some late minor revisions were proposed and the document was well received. I made the updates and emailed the document back to Scott Hill of EBMUD.

Skyline Trail – It is estimated that one cyclist per day is using the section of Skyline Trail that connects Tilden and Sibley Volcanic Preserve. This section of the Bay Area Ridge Trail has not been opened to cyclists. Better signage was suggested.



EBMUD Trail Map - It is a work in progress with no expected completion date yet.

Next steps – It was proposed that the next TAC meeting be held after six months (instead of in three months) in order to best discuss the impact on trail use after the Winter rains.

Reminder: As a BTCEB member, you can receive a 10 percent or higher discount for parts at many of the bike shops in the East Bay. You just have to ask. Thank you to the many bike shop sponsors for your support!

&... WITHOUT FURTHER ADO:



How to buy a bike, the funny side of it

Submitted by Mike Udkow

<https://www.pinkbike.com/news/video-how-to-buy-a-mountain-bike.html>

Are you an active member of BTCEB? by Jon Running

Due to some technical glitches with our membership management system over the last couple of years, renewal notices were not going out to our members. Many folks who were once active and current on dues probably don't even know that their membership lapsed. Others may have registered and meant to become an active member but got stuck with website issues or confusion over the various membership levels and what they mean. No more!

We have fixed up the membership portal, so now is a great time to check your membership status and renew or sign-up for an active paid membership at <https://www.memberplanet.com/btceb>

What does an active paid membership contribute to?

- Continued planning and organization of monthly Gala and Ride-Like-A-Girl Rides
- Glorious snacks and drinks after Gala Rides
- Various Permits and location fees paid for the group at Gala Ride locations (like Del Valle, Rockville and China Camp)
- Personal Insurance during Gala and Ride-Like-A-Girl organized Rides
- Organization and coordination of various pop-up rides around the area during the week and on weekends
- Activism by BTCEB Board and Club Members on continued or new access to Local Trails. Without work like this we risk losing access to legal bike trails all over the Bay Area.
- Relationships with local Parks departments and other organizations to work on local initiatives that benefit mountain bikes
- Trail Maintenance Efforts. A clear trail is a fun trail to ride
- Education for cyclists in Responsible Mountain Biking
- Youth MTB Adventures (YMBA) – free all-inclusive rides to get city kids into nature
- Sponsorship of several local High School Mountain Bike teams

In the future there may also be member-only organized group rides to special locales like Downieville, Tahoe, Santa Cruz, etc.

Visit the club website for more info on what we do and who we are -

<https://www.bicyclerailscouncil.org/>

What kind of memberships are available?

There are five annual membership levels. These can all be adjusted up or down each year upon renewal:

Individual Membership - \$30 per year

The standard membership level for a single person

Family Membership - \$42 per year

If there are multiple riders in your household, please consider a family membership. BTCEB is working for a family-friendly MTB community and fighting for trail access for all riders.

Club Supporter - \$55 per year

Same as an individual or family membership, with an extra contribution to the club to help out all members

Singletrack Society - \$250 per year

Our most committed group of members makes it possible for BTCEB to make a sustained impact, not just now but long into the future.

Student/Financial Hardship - \$15/year

If you're a student or are facing financial hardship, join BTCEB at a reduced rate to contribute to the cause at a more affordable rate.

Lifetime Membership option - \$500.

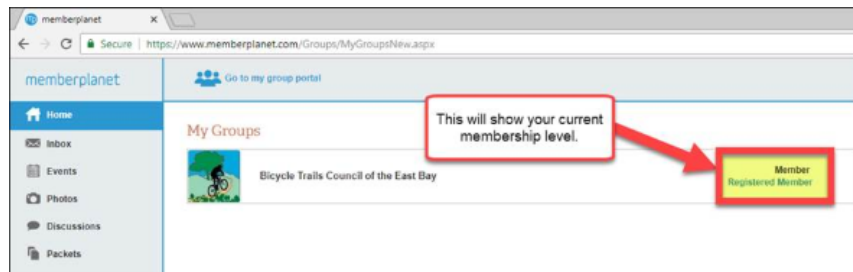
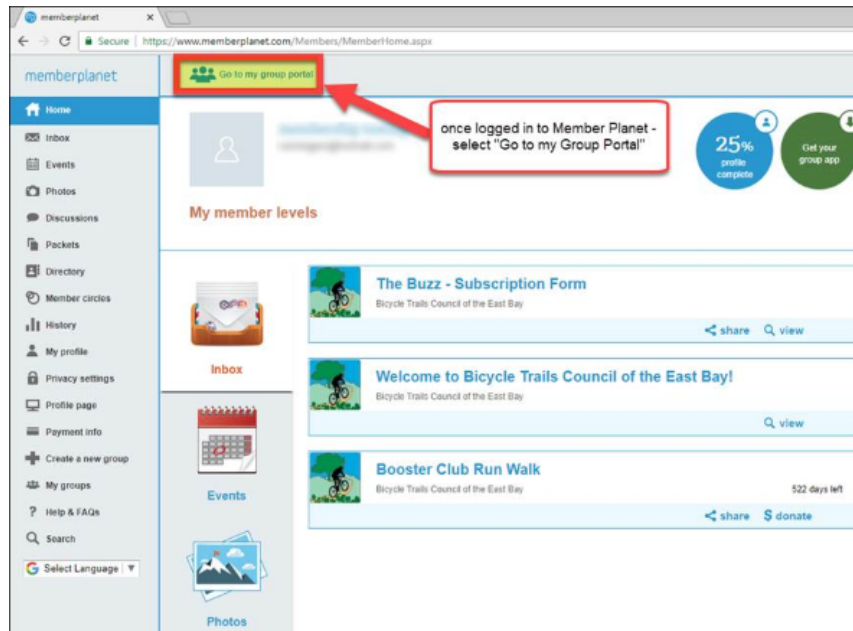
This is the one if you are a trail hero, wish to advocate in perpetuity, and save the stamp, paper, and hassle of paying every year.

Registered Member is the final/default membership level.

This just means you have a Member Planet account but aren't yet an active paid member of our coalition.

Please send a note with any questions or issues to: membership@btceb.org

How do I know what membership level I am now?
To check your current membership level and status:



We hope you'll consider renewing or signing up for an active paid membership with BTCEB. Happy Riding!

OUR SPONSORS INCLUDE:

- [REI](#) (Bike and other sports store)
- [Hank and Frank Bikes](#) (Neighborhood bike shop)
- [La Farine Bakery](#) (Boulangerie)
- [TrailTechnique.com](#) (Ian Massey / mtn bike coaching)
- [Rhythm Bikes](#) (Neighborhood bike shop)
- [Rack Solid](#) (Bike racks)
- [Sports Basement](#) (Bike and other sports store)
- [Trailforks.com](#) (Phone GPS and trail map app)
- [Cycle Sports](#) (Neighborhood bike shop)

ABOUT BTCEB

BTCEB is a one-stop shop. We defend access rights. We lead volunteers to build sustainable trails and repair historic trails. We host social rides. We teach underprivileged kids to ride. We fund youth mountain bike race teams. The list goes on because as riders we can do more together than individually. If you have not already, please consider joining us as a member. Many bike shops in the East Bay grant a 10% discount on bike parts to BTCEB Membership Card holders. It is just another benefit of joining BTCEB. Thank you to all the East Bay bike shops that support our efforts both on and off the trails!

CONTACT US

Do you have a good ride story, trailwork report, or other bike trail news? Tell us about it. Please send a paragraph with 150 words or less with a pic (under 10MB please) and/or link telling us about trailwork, rides, events, or any good mountain bike effort to bring our community together, etc. Please send via email to the editor, John Roberts, with pictures if possible, at: buzz@btceb.org

BTCEB BOARD MEMBERS

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information@btceb.org

Jim Arth, Membership Coordinator
membership@btceb.org

Yvette Skinner, Vice President
Dan McAvoy, Secretary
Lauren Haughey, Treasurer
Henry Mitchell, Trails Coordinator
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Amy Arcus, Director of Women's Programs
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