"UPCOMING" BTCEB EVENTS

To RSVP, or check the calendar, click:
http://www.meetup.com/bicycletrailscouncil/

BTCEB BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 9, 2019
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Z Cafe
2735 Broadway · Oakland, CA

Come join us for our bi-monthly Board and General Membership meeting. BTCEB is a very active organization with lots of interesting things happening. We meet at a nice restaurant with great food and beer at a central location with lots of parking. Come just to listen or to present your ideas or concerns. If you want an advanced copy of the agenda email mikeudkow@gmail.com

Please RSVP to reserve a seat.
https://www.meetup.com/BicycleTrailsCouncil/events/257650662/

Pictured above is the Board during BTCEB's 30th Anniversary Bash

Gala Ride at Rockville
by Mike Udkow, BTCEB President
Saturday, January 12, 2019
9:30 AM

Next month’s ride is scheduled for Rockville for 1/12 with 1/20 as a back up rain date. BTCEB will cover the cost of your trail pass at the ride. WE ALWAYS HAVE A BIG TURN-OUT FOR ROCKVILLE, SO CAR POOL IF YOU CAN. WE ALWAYS DONATE $250 TO THE PARK. And if you could volunteer to lead a group I would REALLY appreciate it. *AND LET’S KEEP THOSE POP-UP RIDES COMING!*

We invite you to our monthly Gala Ride. We usually meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month. 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.
Rides are free and open to the public and led by experienced local mountain bikers familiar with the trails. Medical coverage is provided to all paid BTCEB members, one more reason to join. So go to our web site, http://www.bicycletrailscouncil.org/ and hit the JOIN TODAY button. We take PayPal.

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/ppsldpyzcbqb/

2019 Gala Ride Schedule
by Mike Udkow, BTCEB President
All rides are held on the 2nd Saturday except July 14 and October 13. Those marked with an *** need an EBRPD permit:
Jan 12 – Rockville
Feb 10 – No Gala: Pop-Ups
March 9 – China Camp
*April 13 – Del Valle
*May 11 – Crockett
*June 8 – Wildcat/Tilden
July 14 (SUNDAY) – China Camp
*August 10– Anthony Chabot (or maybe a Pop-Up Ride)
Sept 14 – JMP
*Oct 13 (Sunday) – Crockett
Nov 9 – Fernandez Ranch (JMLT)
Dec 14 – Deer Park (Marin)
Consider Castle Park and Pleasanton Ridge
Jan 11, 2020-Rockville

Popup Rides
by Mike Udkow, BTCEB President
BTCEB has many other smaller, less formal last-minute rides, known as "popups".

Want more organized rides?? Who doesn't. Sign up to organize a POP-UP ride. If you are uncomfortable as a ride leader, no problem. Ask someone from the group to lead (that's what I do!). The "organizer' isn't necessarily the "ride leader". Send me the ride info and your cell number and I will cut and paste your description into MeetUp. And thank you to the small group of pop-up ride organizer volunteers. Keep up the good work.
mikeudkow@gmail.com

Look for them at anytime on the Meetup page or subscribe to email notifications: https://www.meetup.com/BicycleTrailsCouncil/
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.

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REPORTS

RLAGs

Our Ride Like a Girl rides were cancelled due to rain for December 2018, and January 2019. Of course we really need the rain, but hopefully it will rain on a non-ride weekend next time!

Gala Ride Report
by Mike Udkow, BTCEB President

December’s ride was in Marin, staging at Deer Park, riding in the Marin watershed. We had 45 people RSVP on Meetup but only 30 showed up .... so we had lots of beer!
The weather was beautiful; sunny and cool, with dry trails. The scenery was lovely as we rode around Bon Tempe Lake, Phoenix Lake and Lake Lagunitas.

It keeps getting harder to find ride leaders, so a big thank you to Michael Cohn, Maureen Gaffney, and Jeanette Hall for volunteering to lead, and to all our sweepers.
Joaquin Miller Work Day
by Henry Mitchell, BTCEB Trails Coord.

Neither rain nor sleet nor snow (OK maybe not sleet or snow) could deter 22 hearty volunteers from managing crucial repairs to the Lower Big Trees and Upper Palos Colorados trails at Joaquin Miller Park. The original work day scheduled for Saturday, December 1st. It was postponed. Despite inclement and unpredictable weather these volunteers showed up anyway. They were willing to help with badly need repairs to the trails. The official work day will be rescheduled in the future. Special thanks to the Piedmont High School mountain bike team.

On Mountain Bikes.
Editorial

1/3/19 - I was doing day ride with my daughter on a vacation in Baja California, Mexico, when in the middle of nowhere, I spotted two people standing in the distance. At first I thought they were ranchers. As I approached, I realized they were mountain bikers. I started a conversation before two more caught up to them. All four were fine riders (finer than me). I was only five miles away from my hotel. In contrast, they were still a thousand miles away from their final ride's destination. Laughs were had.
They are a part of what is known as the Baja Divide riders. Riders start in San Diego, and finish on the southern tip of the Baja California peninsula, also known as Cabo San Lucas. They ride primarily unpaved routes. Sometimes they stop at hotels, and more often than not, they camp under the stars. It has been said that the difference between an adventure, and an ordeal, is attitude. [https://bajadivide.com/](https://bajadivide.com/)

**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:

Learn to buy a mtn bike ... and transform
Submitted by Mike Udkow
There may be another pop quiz about this at the next Board meeting, so watch this hilarious video till the end...

High School Mountain Biking
Submitted by Daniel McAvoy
There are over 18,500 kids currently racing mountain bikes on over 1,000 teams in
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.bicycletrailscouncil.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!

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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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Jim Arth, Membership Coordinator
membership@btceb.org
Yvette Skinner, Vice President
Dan McAvoy, Secretary
Lauren Haughey, Treasurer
Henry Mitchell, Trails Coordinator
Dave Wolden, Director of Youth Programs (YMBA)
Amy Arcus, Director of Women’s Programs
Tom Gandesbery, Member-at-Large
Tom Holub, IT Chair

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