

Sacramento Wheelmen Club Newsletter



2023, Issue 5

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Event Calendar Report

CLUB PICNIC

Saturday, October 14 - The annual Wheelmen picnic is scheduled for Saturday October 14, 2023, at Folsom's Lew Howard Park. More details are available on the Club's website in the Events section.

TOM GOODWIN's 98th BIRTHDAY

Thursday, October 12th - Tom Goodwin's 98th birthday celebration will be held at Aviator's at the Executive Airport, 6151 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento CA. The event will be a Thursday Breakfast ride and starts at 8:30 AM at William Pond Park in Carmichael.

Several of Tom's friends have been working on a biography of his WWII service with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific on the USS Mississippi, BB41. The Club will also be presenting Tom with a Charter Membership certificate for the National WWII Museum in New Orleans, LA. In addition, an engraved brick honoring Tom's service will be placed on a Wall of Honor at the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas. A photo of the brick will be given to Tom.

A small part of the \$30.00 for breakfast is to help with the cost of the memorial brick. RSVP with a check made out to Mary Moore by Oct 10th and mailed to Mary Moore, 185 Southgate Rd., Sacramento, CA 95815. If you cannot attend the breakfast but wish to contribute to the brick, you may do so by sending a donation to Mary Moore.

Please contact Mary Moore (mary-moore@surewest.net) or Dale Johnson at davijohnslckr@comcast.net for more information.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 6:30 PM, tune into the Club Meeting via ZOOM. The Zoom link follows - (paste the following link into your web browser):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83287766222?pwd=eFY3MTNpekFuWnBJemo1Z3J5UmVQQT09>

Meeting ID: 832 8776 6222

Passcode: 162665

The Zoom call “opens” at 6 PM; the meeting begins at 6:30 PM.

Meeting Agenda

1. August 16 Minutes (Debbie Finley)
2. Membership Update (Caron McMillan)
3. Italy Tour Report (Sandy Yarrow)
4. Annual Club Picnic Report (Tim Koch)
5. 2023 Budget Report (Bob Storelli)
6. 2024 Proposed Budget (Bob Storelli)
7. 2024 Board Member Nominations (Tom Adams)

REPORT ON THE AUGUST 16 MEETING - 2024 Club Budget Topic of Discussion in August

An encouraging membership report stood in contrast to an anticipated 2023 club budget deficit at the club’s August 16, 2023, Zoom meeting. The 2023 budget update was made in conjunction with the Executive Board’s announcement regarding the proposed 2024 club donation amount. Those in attendance also were asked to provide feedback on the proposed 2024 Oregon Tour format.

From the beginning of the year to August 14, the club grew by 45 members, not including renewals. Four of the new members are from out of state. How did they hear about the Sacramento Wheelmen? Ten of them heard about us from a club member and eight found us from our web site. Eleven of them rode with us as a guest before joining. That leaves 15 who did not respond when asked this question. Our presence on Facebook and on MeetUp probably deserve some credit. The Oregon Tour and our Zodiacs attract new members, too. Total membership as of August 14 stood at 334 members of which 200 were subscribed to Groups.io, our private email account.

The club's Executive Board is proposing a club 2024 donation amount of \$2,000, the same amount we are donating this year. Despite currently running at an annual deficit of roughly \$4,500, the Executive Board has decided the club's current reserve of \$70,000 allows the club to honor its constitutional commitment to charitable giving by drawing on its reserve. The announcement was not fully supported by all members present at the August meeting. Also, there were several questions and suggestions regarding the club's financial situation. Several members felt the projected interest income of \$468 this year was unsatisfactory for a club with a \$70,000 reserve. Given how much the club subsidizes the banquet expenses, it was suggested that members pay more for that. What is a reasonable reserve fund for the Sacramento Wheelmen given that we no longer need to cover the financial risk of putting on the Sierra Century? \$40,000? \$30,000? What? Should the club go to the trouble and expense of changing its non-profit status so that donations to the club are tax deductible?

The 2023 Oregon Tour functioned as a fund raiser again ending up with \$2,129 over expenses. For 2024, Ride Leader Tim Koch is planning to stage the tour out of two towns beginning with Grants Pass for three days and moving to Ashland for the last four days. Tim has chosen this format because inland routes in Oregon do not have hotels large enough to accommodate us unless we stage out of larger cities.

As planned, participants on the 2024 tour will drive their own cars to each hotel and transport their own luggage. The availability of personal cars will also allow for location starts other than the hotel. Since all routes return to the start with this format, participants will be able to reduce their mileage each day if they choose. Exact routes will be determined and announced at the club's November Zoom meeting. This meeting will also be your first opportunity to sign up for the 2024 Oregon Tour. Tentatively, Tim is looking at the latter part of May. Shakespearean plays in Ashland and the Britt Festival in Jacksonville are additional attractions. Campgrounds nearby are an option for those who don't want to pay for hotels.

This new proposed format for the Oregon Tour may negate the need to rent a truck. Members at the August Zoom meeting requested that a SAG vehicle be provided each day.

Fourteen Wheelmen rode RAGBRAI's 50th edition this year from July 23 to 29. It was a hot and humid experience with as many as 40,000 riders on the course at one time. In contrast, the club's Santa Cruz Zodiac from August 7 through 10 was chilly in the morning but great climbing weather. Dave Grattendick hosted a dinner at a beach home he co-owns. Twenty-two Wheelmen participated in the Zodiac. The Zodiac included a loop through Scotts Valley, a

surprisingly challenging route to Gizdich Pie Shop in Watsonville, the traditional climb up Eureka Canyon, and the short but steep Bonny Dune route. In a final tour report, 17 men and 18 women signed up for the 2024 European Tour this year.

We have reserved the Dante Club again for our annual awards banquet. The banquet will be held on Jan. 20, 2024. Get that on your calendar. Club volunteer and mileage achievements will be recognized. Mileage shirts will be distributed. More information to follow.

Social Media Report

Please continue to RSVP for rides that are posted on Meetup. Rides that have a high number of RSVPs are well-attended by members and future members.

Travel Report

ZODIACS – Domestic Cycling Trips

Paso Robles Zodiac

Monday – Friday, October 16 – 20, 2023

The Paso Robles Zodiac was without a ride leader(s) for a few years so the event did not take place ...but it's back, thanks to leaders Steve and Sheila Forsberg and Glenn and Mary Moore! The Zodiac is expected to have record attendance, no big surprise because the central coast area is a cycling paradise and very beautiful. Attendees will have several ride routes from which to choose; organized group rides take place on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. See the Wheelmen website for more details.

TOURS – International Cycling Trips

2023 Italy Tour

September 18 – October 8, 2023

This year's European Tour was still in progress at the time of Newsletter publishing. Look to a future newsletter for a full report of the tour.