

Tierra Bella Mechanics Captain - Ed Irvine 408-807-1494

My last report wrap-up for May 3, 2025:

It seems we're receiving a lot of praise from happy riders of yesterday's Tierra Bella. I especially wanted to thank you all for offering to help out after some stores and members had to drop out of the event.

Please consider joining our TB worker's ride on Saturday, May 10. There will be rides and a free picnic afterwards (though the rides haven't been posted yet, they should show up on [our calendar](#) by Friday). Even if you can't ride, consider joining the picnic at 12:30 where they'll offer regular, veg and vegan fare. They're asking to [make a reservation for it](#) by tomorrow evening, so they can prepare.

I hope we can do this again next year, if planning and expenses allow. I will probably be contacting you again to beg for volunteers - so forewarned is four-armed!

Thanks again for all your help, and I hope to see you Saturday. All the best,

Ed Irvine

ACTC, TWFK and Good Karma Bicycle Repairman

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“As the Mechanics Captain, I try to assign an experienced bike mechanic with a helper to each rest stop. In earlier Tierra Bella times, we would often find stores were eager to work a reststop in exchange for advertising their name at the event. Stores have had a tough time lately, and Good Karma Bikes is our only remaining sponsor of ten years now. Fortunately, several ACTC members jumped at my last-minute request and helped us get through successfully.

“I was at Gilroy Hot Springs meeting our newest mechanic: Matt Witkowski - who works for [bikebluebook.com](#). He's not with ACTC yet but we'll work on that. Anyway, a female rider asked if someone could look at her Di2 issue. The other wrench, Bob Berends, and I said "No way, never seen them before!" but Matt said he worked on them every day! He explained the problem and she was happy. Seems like destiny drove them and us to meet!

“We had a few new helpers who felt they lacked confidence to cover a rest stop. But you'd be surprised how accepting riders are in these cases. There are occasionally some who want a full rehab at a rest stop, but usually they will understand that some things require time and are left to their local bike store, and are happy if we can call SAG for them. Other things like flat tubes, broken cables, etc., are happy if we can get them further down the road. It's all a roll of the dice, and ACTC members almost always come thru. And if not, that's what SAG is for!”