

---

# News Release

---



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

September 23, 2008

**CONTACT:**

Roy Stearns  
(916) 654-7538/2270

## **100-Mile Bicycle Ride Helps Celebrate 100-year Anniversary at Allensworth State Historic Park October 11**

Kicking off a two-day anniversary celebration of Allensworth, an all black town established in 1908, bicyclists will hit the road at Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park next month.

In the Allensworth Funride & Century, cyclists can enjoy one of four organized bike rides from the park through agricultural flatlands of the San Joaquin Valley. The rides run 40 miles, 80 miles, 90 miles and 100 miles long. Towns along the routes include Woody, McFarland and Delano. The farther riders go, the more they will see of the surrounding rolling hills, some of the most beautiful frontier countryside in the southern Sierras.

After a 6 a.m. registration, the rides begin at 7:30 a.m. and conclude with a "Buffalo Soldier style barbecue at 11 a.m. at the park. The barbecue is part of the centennial celebration festival of the founding of Allensworth, which is now a state park.

The event is being held by Crankin' Time Cycling, with a portion of the proceeds going to The Friends of Allensworth Cooperating Association, dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of Colonel Allensworth.

Entry fee is \$55. Tandem riders pay an additional \$15. For additional information about the ride call Crankin' Time Cycling at (323) 810-0141. To learn more about the centennial celebration of the town of Allensworth, call California State Parks at (916) 375-5911 or visit [http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=24825](http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=24825).

Colonel Allensworth SHP is located in Tulare County, 10 miles southwest of Earlimart, California on County Road J22. From Highway 99, take County Road J22 west to Highway 43 south and turn into the park at Palmer Avenue.

The town was established, founded, financed and governed by African Americans, beginning in 1908, as a place where African Americans could escape discrimination and create better lives for themselves. When the water dried up in the 1930s and 40s, most of the towns residents moved elsewhere. It became a state historic park in 1976.

###