



MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

LEADING THE PARTICIPATION OF MOUNTAIN CYCLISTS IN THE TRAIL COMMUNITY

JAN-FEB 2002

Stevens Creek Trail Progress

Local cyclists showed up in strength last month at a meeting of the Cupertino committee for the Stevens Creek Trail, and their persuasive speeches helped pass a motion to open this trail to bikes. Although there are several more steps this motion must go through before it is ap-

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Moffett Park Breakthrough

NASA and Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) have inked an agreement to allow the San Francisco Bay Trail to run through Moffett Field and connect Mountain View and Sunnyvale.

The Bay Trail is a multi-year project that when completed will provide a continuous 400-mile network of bicycling and

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HENRY W. COE BACKCOUNTRY WEEKEND

For one spectacular weekend this spring, Henry W. Coe State Park will open the gate at Bell Station on Highway 152 east of Gilroy. The annual Coe Backcountry Weekend, held in the little-traveled east side of the 83,600 acre park is scheduled for April 27-28, 2002. This event, sponsored by the Pine Ridge Association and the Department of Parks and Recreation, allows visitors vehicle access to a remote and beautiful area. Hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians have a unique opportunity to see and enjoy an area isolated from the

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Nisene Marks Plans Still In Flux

Sat. Feb, 2, 9:30-12:30.

Thanks to Romp speakers Paul Nam, Jim Owen, Ross Finlayson, Patty Ciesla, Charles Jalgunas, and Dave Wade. Also thanks to the various members of Stewards of Soquel, MBOSC and the many other un-named individuals speaking on behalf of cycling access.

OPTION B WAS PRESENTED AS THE PREFERRED OPTION FOR THE DRAFT GENERAL PLAN. ABOUT 150 MEETING ATTENDEES WERE PRESENT WITH AN EQUAL NUMBER OF FOLKS SPEAKING (2 HOURS WORTH) FOR AND AGAINST CYCLING ACCESS. THERE WAS VERY LITTLE DISCUSSION ABOUT THE SPECIFICS OF OPTION B, ALTHOUGH IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT BIKES SHOULD BE MOVED AWAY FROM THE CLOSE-IN, CONGESTED AREAS TO MORE REMOTE AREAS.

Recurring concerns expressed by hikers were; illegal riding, illegal trail building, erosion and cycling interrupting the "tranquil nature experience. Closure of MROSD lands was also cited as an example of cycling not working.

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NMBP Patrol Coordinator Attends ROMP Clinic

Friday, January 25, 2002.

I arrive at the San Jose, California International airport in the afternoon. ROMP's Patrol Director Karen Morgan and her husband John (also a ROMP patroller) are there to pick me up as I walk through the door. After countless hours of phone conversation, I'm anxious to meet some of IMBA's most energized and dedicated volunteers in person. After a quick lunch we're off to the Morgan's house to...build a teeter totter. That's right. We built a teeter totter for the bicycle skills portion of the clinic to follow

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The 2002 ROMP Swap Meet

It's Coming!!!

The biggest and best Bike Swap Meet of all time!!!!

The 2002 ROMP Swap Meet!!!

The location: behind Cupertino Bike Shop, 10493 De Anza Blvd. in Cupertino.

The date: April 28, 2002.

The time: 10 AM to 4 PM.

The bargains: EVERYWHERE!!!

See ya there!



ROMP MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

The *Mountain Cyclist* is the monthly newsletter of the Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers (ROMP). Mailing address:

ROMP
PO Box 1723
Campbell CA 95009-1723
info@romp.org

Send general newsletter material directly to the editor (not to the club PO box):

John Hillstrom
newsletter@romp.org

Send ride listings to the club ride coordinator (not to the club PO box):

Chris Voci-Nam and Paul Nam
650-493-8774
ride@romp.org

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are where the vast majority of ROMP business is conducted, including policy development issues, budgets, and cyclist education. They occur at 7 PM on the fourth Monday of each month (except December) at the Round Table Pizza, Sunnyvale Town and Country
Address: 101 Town And Country Sunnyvale, CA 94086. (408) 736-2242

Newsletter Mailing Party

Many thanks to all for helping fold, tab, and label the last newsletter.

This fun is repeated monthly, usually on the fourth Wednesday or Thursday of the month in Cupertino. If you would like to help next time (and eat some pizza and talk bikes at the same time), contact Glenn Wegner at 408-257-8284 or newsmailing@romp.org for more details.

IMBA Rules of the Trail

ROMP, an IMBA-affiliated organization, supports and practices the IMBA Rules of the Trail. Following these rules is not only key to responsible riding, but essential to keep trails open to cycling.

1. Ride on open trails only.
2. Leave no trace.
3. Control your bicycle.
4. Always yield trail.
5. Never spook animals.
6. Plan ahead.

Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch County Park Update

By Alicia Borowski, Task Force Member
February 14, 2002

Three proposed design alternatives for the Park were presented at the February 7 meeting. The park is divided into various regions: (1) West Flat Area (2) Slopes and Ridge Area (3) Lakeside Area and (4) Mendoza Ranch Area and assorted components of the park are outlined for each design. For example: Trails, Camping, Boating, Agricultural Education, Picnic Sites, Ranger Station, Maintenance Facility, Visitor Center, etc.

There is some very good news for cyclists at this point. 1) Multi-use trails are mentioned for all 4 regions of the 3 designs. However, in the Slopes and Ridge Area, they are suggesting that not all trails may be multi-use due to topography, safety and/or

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ROMP Events

Ride details are listed at the end of the newsletter. Other details can be found at <http://www.romp.org/volunteer/schedule.html>

March 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <i>Social Ride</i>	4	5 <i>Alpine Ride</i> <i>St. Joe's Ride</i>	6	7	8	9 <i>Fort Ord Ride</i>
10 <i>Soquel Ride</i>	11 <i>Spring Ride</i>	12	13 <i>Fort Ord</i>	14	15	16
17 <i>El Corte Rides</i>	18 <i>Spring ride</i>	19 <i>Alpine & St. Joe's Ride.</i>	20	21	22	23 <i>Beginners Clinic</i>
24	25 <i>Spring Ride</i>	26	27	28	29	30
31 <i>Wilder Ride</i>						

April 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>Alpine Ride</i>	3	4	5	6
7 <i>Social Ride</i>	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 <i>Soquel Ride</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 <i>El Corte Rides</i>	22	23	24	25	26	27 <i>Beginners Clinic</i>
28 <i>Wilder Ride</i>	29	30				

IMBA's Sprockids Program is here at last!

The International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), is committed to helping kids experience the wonders and benefits of bicycling. They have become a partner and a supporter of the Sprockids program, created by Doug Detwiller in British Columbia, Canada.

The program is an ideal way for our youths to channel their energy into a positive lifestyle by promoting an awareness of health, nutrition, and physical fitness- a message that has lifelong benefits. Through mountain biking, the Sprockids Program provides a positive venue for young people to develop their self-image and personal values.

ROMP is proud to be the west coast of the Junior High Schools in tary School District, School, Bernal Intermediate School will sponses from the stu- have been extremely will begin on March 1, 2002, and run as an after-school sports program for one hour a week.



piloting this program on United States. Three the Oak Grove Elemen- Herman Intermediate School and Davis be participating. Re- dents, staff and parents positive. The program

We are in need of volunteers from ROMP, and from the community at large, to help us make this program a success. If you are interested in helping teach bike maintenance, riding skills, leading a ride, donating bike parts, or just lending a hand, please contact Karen Morgan at nmpb@romp.org or call her at (408) 224-6879.

Steep Hillsides Create Challenges for Braille Trail Work

A late January rain left the ground moist and slippery for the final workday on Braille for the season. We made great progress on some of the most difficult sections of the trail, making them safe for ATV passage for search and rescue. We marched up the trail admiring the work from earlier this winter and got to work. Joe Fabris rode in and helped with some finishing touches on the lower sections.

Our attention was next focused on the middle and upper sections of the trail, particularly those nearest Sue's Creek. The "Knife Edge" was dulled slightly with the prep work done the week before by Jessica from CDF and a crew of wards out on work-release. They had installed a crib-wall to make room around a redwood tree on the edge, but it needed finish work to make it safe for all trail users.

After this project, Patty Ciesla led the crew further up the hill, to the top of the route, where drainage was clearly needed in an area built into very loamy soil. The compacted earth had formed a depressed trailbed in a few areas and the waterbars installed by Darius and Charles Lai will surely help this area avoid becoming deeply trenched.

The last project of the day was on the drainage where the Bay Laurel Tree came down in the snow last year. Ellen Carter from Summit Riders helped Ed, Charles, Ford and Ron Laflin re-establish the bench under the root ball and ensure the stream would not be impacted by silt from the trail.

A great day in the woods once again. Many thanks to all who have worked on this epic trail!

ROMP Directory

Responsible Organized Mt. Pedalers (ROMP)
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www.romp.org, info@romp.org
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Ride Coordinator	Chris Voci-Nam and Paul Nam ride@romp.org
Sponsor Coordinator	Jim Sullivan sponsor@romp.org
Webmaster	Karen McAdams webmaster@romp.org

Other Organizations

Bicycle Trails Council of Marin (BTCM)	PO Box 494, Fairfax CA 94978 415-456-7512 btcmarin.org
Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay (BTCEB)	PO Box 9583, Berkeley CA 94709 415-528-BIKE www.btceastbay.org
Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition	916-663-4626 www.fatrac.org
International Mt. Biking Association (IMBA)	PO Box 7578, Boulder CO 80306 303-545-9011 www.imba.com
Monterey Mt. Bike Association (MoMBA)	PO Box 51928, Pacific Grove CA 93590 408-372-2134
Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC)	president@mboosc.org www.mboosc.org
Sonoma County Trails Council (SCTC)	www.sonomatrails.org/sctc/
San Jose Inner City Outings (San Jose ICO)	www.sierraclub.org/ico/sanjose/
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition	www.svbcbikes.org/
Western Wheelers Bicycle Club	www.westernwheelers.org
Women's Mt. Biking and Tea Soc. (WoMBATS)	www.wombats.org

Land Manager Meetings

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) oversees many open space preserves throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Board of director's meetings are open to the public on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 PM in the district offices at 330 Distel Circle (off El Camino Real north of Rengstorff), Los Altos. The District also holds Trail Policy Committee meetings which deal with development and implementation of trail use policy.

Los Gatos Trails Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month from 6 to 7 PM at 41 Miles Avenue, Los Gatos.

Santa Clara County Group of the Bay Area Ridge Trail Committee (BARTC) meets on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Greenbelt Alliance, 1922 The Alameda, Santa Clara (may change – call before attending). Call Judy Etheridge at 408-248-3900.

San Mateo County Group of the BARTC meets on the first Wednesday of each month from 9:30 AM to 12 noon at Coyote Point Museum (odd months) and other locations (even months). Call Bill Smith at 650-873-0415 for meeting locations and other information.

Land Manager Directory

Bay Area Action (Arastradero Preserve) 265 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View 94043, 650-625-1994 or 1996, fax 650-625-1995; www.arastradero.org, www.baaction.org (general), www.participation.com/arastradero

California Recreational Trails Committee Ken McKowen, Trails Coordinator, PO Box 942896, Sacramento 94296-0001, 916-653-6501

Castle Rock State Park Bob Culbertson, 408-429-2869; Dave Keck, 916-322-2997

City of Palo Alto (Arastradero) Recreation, Open Space and Sciences Division, 650-329-2423

East Bay Regional Park District 11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 94619, 415-531-9300

Henry W. Coe State Park P.O. Box 846, Morgan Hill 95038 Kay Robinson, Park Sup't. 408-848-4006, Barry Breckling, Unit Ranger 408-779-2728, Joe Harcastle, District Superintendent. 209-826-1196; www.coepark.parks.ca.gov (general), www.coepark.parks.ca.gov/biking.html (biking)

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos 94022; 650-691-1200; mrostd@openspace.org, www.openspace.org

Mt. Diablo State Park District Office 96 Mitchell Canyon Rd., Clayton 94517; 510-673-2891; Larry Ferri, Park Superintendent

Santa Clara County Parks & Rec. Dept. 298 Garden Hill Dr., Los Gatos, 95030; Mark Frederick, Capital Projects Mgr., 408-358-3741 x143; fax 408-358-3245; mark.frederick@mail.prk.co.santa-clara.ca.us, claraweb.co.santa-clara.ca.us/parks/

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors 70 W. Hedding, San Jose, 95110; 408-299-2323

Santa Cruz District 600 Ocean St., Santa Cruz 95060; 408-429-2850; David Vincent, District Superintendent

The Trail Center 3921 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto 94303; 650-968-7065, www.trailcenter.org

April Social Event

Our April Social Event will feature legendary mountain biker, Jacquie Phelan. Look for a separate mailing with date and details to follow!

Swap Meet Volunteer Needed

Our annual Swap Meet is coming on April 27, 2002. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and to be a success we need volunteers for various assignments. The hours of the Swap Meet are from 10am to 4pm, but volunteers are needed from 8am to 4:30pm and in 2 hour shifts. (Multiple shifts are available!)

The various positions available for volunteers are:

- + Unloading vendors
- + Collecting entrance fees and stamping hands
- + Traffic control
- + ROMP booth attendees
- + Clean up crew

If you are interested in helping out in any way, please contact Karen Morgan at social@romp.org, or call her at (408) 224-6879.

Member Profile: Glenn & Linda Wegner

Over the years Glenn & Linda continue to maintain a high level of involvement within Romp. An on-going corner stone contribution of theirs is the newsletter mailing party that enters its 9th year. By hosting the mailing parties they've not only managed to get the newsletter mailed but have also made many friends. A few fine pizzas and beers were also consumed along the way.

Another staple contribution is their Tuesday night Fremont Older ride. It typically runs from May to October (man that's a long time!) and G & L have been at it for more than 7 years. A group of "regulars" always turn out for the ride and post ride food but for many folks this is their first introduction to Romp and group rides. Everyone is made to feel comfortable and things are kept casual. No injuries (beyond scraps and bruises) have ever occurred.

Many folks know Glenn as a "retro biker". He rides an old Bridgestone (he just went to front suspension a few years ago) and wears tires down until they look like the kind of trendy, low rolling resistance ones you buy for \$40 bucks. No high tech gadgets or gizmos here (except for an altimeter which gets quite a bit of use!). All this aside, it's always a pleasure riding with him. He's been riding so long that when you're behind him you notice how smooth he rides; picking clean lines and always riding within his limits. In 7 years of riding I've seen him fall only once and a very minor one at that. One more thing you'll notice is his riding apparel. He's the only guy I know that can show up on a



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Coe Backcountry

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park's Morgan Hill entrance by long distances and rugged terrain.

This area of the park puts on a spring extravaganza of colorful wildflowers in the oak woodland. Fishing for bass and sunfish is excellent in secluded ponds and reservoirs. The trails provide panoramic views of the Diablo Range. Visitors may come into the park for the day, camp overnight at Orestimba Corral or Pacheco Creek Crossing, or backpack to one of the seldom visited areas of the park. They may explore on their own, join a guided ride or hike, or participate in interpretive activities. Brochures, maps, information, activities, and volunteer assistance will be available.

Participants will travel 8.5 miles on an unpaved road from Bell Station to Pacheco Creek Crossing or an additional 3.8 miles to the Orestimba Corral. The road is in good condition and passable by two-wheel drive vehicles, although there are some narrow and steep sections requiring high clearance. Four-wheel drive is strongly recommended for towing horse trailers. Because of space limitations, steep hills, and creek crossings with sharp embankments, the road is not suitable for camp trailers or motor homes.

Entry for the weekend is by reservation only. Flyers announcing the event and providing an application form are available at the Coe Park web site (<http://www.coepark.org>); the REI stores in Berkeley, San Carlos, and Cupertino; Silacci's Feed Barn in Gilroy; Gunther's Feed Store in Morgan Hill; FISCO Farm and Home Store in Modesto; and at the Coe Park Visitor Center. Written requests for applications (self-addressed stamped business envelopes included) should be addressed to **Application Forms, Coe Sector Office, 5750 Obata Way, Suite A., Gilroy, CA 95020.**

Applications and entry fees, \$10.00 per vehicle for day use, \$20.00 per vehicle for overnight, must be post-marked by **SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2002.** One vehicle per application, please. We strongly encourage car pooling. A random drawing will be held to

meet the 350 vehicles per day space limitation. All unsuccessful application forms will be returned with their checks to the applicants. No dogs will be allowed. Camp stoves will be permitted, but no open fires, barbecues, or hibachis. A group campfire will be held on Saturday night.

Join us for an unforgettable experience. The backcountry of Henry W. Coe State Park on a spring weekend is not to be missed.

Member Profile

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ride wearing a pristine bike event tee shirt that's more than 10 years old. The 1992 Napa Valley Classic is my favorite.

Linda manages to keep Glenn on the go and is a great socializer. She's very down to earth and does a great job making sure people feel welcome. On the trail I've seen her connect with hard-core bike junkies, beginners, hikers, equestrians and rangers. Off the trail she's helped to provide insight to land managers about the joy of bike riding.

Not to be forgotten is their contribution as Treasurer (Glenn 6 yrs) and Membership Coordinator (Linda 7 yrs). Glenn (along with Gary Gellin) is also co-founder of the Romp B.A.R.F. (Bay Area Riding Fanatics) yearly ride.

Thanks again for all your efforts.

Henry Pastorelli
Romp, President

Save a Tree: Go Paperless!

Members with web access may forgo receiving the printed version of this newsletter. By doing so, you will receive an email notifying you when the latest newsletter is posted on ROMP's website (at www.romp.org/news). If you would like to select this option, send an email to memberdata@romp.org with "No paper, please" in the subject and your name and preferred email

Stevens Creek Trail

proved, this is a great first step toward bike access on this trail.

For the first time in any of the trail meetings to date, more people spoke in favor of shared-use access than against it. After public input was taken, the committee members had a chance to speak, and a few spoke of bikes disrupting a natural experience and expected user conflicts. However, a couple other members of the committee spoke clearly about the need for areas like this to be accessible to youth and families who might like to bike, scooter, or skate; these members also spoke of Cupertino's history of inclusion, and how excluding bikes would go against that history. Comments of several of our speakers were cited in support of shared use. In the end, it paid off: the committee voted to make the trail shared use along the entire stretch from Stevens Creek Blvd. to Linda Vista Park.

This process has been going on for a year, and it is not quite over yet. The committee will eventually forward their recommendation on to the Cupertino Parks and Recreation Commission. That commission will vote on it and then pass it on to the Cupertino City Council, who will have final say. Trail opponents will undoubtedly show up to try to get last night's vote overturned, so more meeting attendance will be needed. The City Council will first discuss this on March 18th, but other details are to be determined, so please watch the newsletter, website, and email list for additional information.

Thanks to those who made some very intelligent and well-received comments: Patty Ciesla, Lloyd Davies, Paul Koski, Paul Metz, Anne Ng, John Shalamskas, Bob Slee, Linda Wegner, and Cornelia Woodworth (my apologies to a couple others who spoke but whose names I did not record). This meeting was a great demonstration that, when we show up and speak up, we can make a positive difference. Please come out to the next meeting to help assure this victory!

- Rod Brown

Local Mountain Bikers make donation to September 11th Fund United Way's National Unity Ride benefits September 11th Fund

Mill Valley, November 11, 2001 - Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers (ROMP), of Campbell, California, is the oldest off-road cycling advocacy group in the San Francisco Bay Area and leads the participation of mountain cyclists in the trail community. While working with local cycling industry leaders, government agencies, and other trail user groups is their main mission, some members took time out to ride The National Unity Ride, a national fundraising event with rides in major cities throughout the United States.

ROMP riders gathered at 8:15am, and following a moment of silence, began their 20 mile ride around the Marin Headlands. Although the weather became wet, the rain did not deter the riders or dampen the desire of these cyclists to make a contribution on behalf of their mountain biking club.

This event puts a human face on the sport of mountain biking, as they too feel the need to help ease the pain and suffering of the victims and their families of the September 11th terrorist attack.

For more information, contact Henry Pastorelli, ROMP President, PO Box 1723, Campbell CA 95009-1723, Phone 408-380-2271, ext 2171

Nisene Marks

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Pro bike statements were; irresponsible and illegal riding should be prosecuted. If trails are well designed impacts (by all users) are minimized. Some mentioned bikes should not be allowed everywhere especially in sensitive eco and creek areas. Trails belong to everyone and our taxes are paying for access to this land. There are examples of parks where cycling is working.

A lawyer (retained by Friends of Nisene Marks) spoke regarding the upper section of the Deeded property and the "implied intent" to maintain the land as a "nature preserve". A letter was also read from a surviving relative of the Deeded family stating they never intended to provide access to cyclists. A brief discussion with the Park Superintendent after the meeting revealed the State does not believe there is any merit regarding the Deeded property legalities.

Option B will set aside large areas of land as "nature preserve" effectively excluding bikes. ROMP asked to provide corridors within the nature preserve (paralleling the main fire roads) so the possibility exists to open some single track and link trails in the future. These trails could then be evaluated for opening by future (data driven) CEQA and EIR evaluations.

Next step: Prepare Draft EIR. Hopefully our comments will be considered and modifications made to option "B".

<http://www.stanford.edu/~imahorse/images/AlternativeB.pdf>

In conclusion, the meeting was pretty redundant with what I've seen at other meetings. Many pro/con biking opinions were expressed. Also, another recurring theme is that a few irresponsible riders continue to instill a bad image. The Park Supervisor pulled me aside and asked if there's something we could do to help "bridge the gap"

and form a closer bond or alliance with other user groups, particularly the hikers. I mentioned previous Romp and Stomps. She thought maybe something along those lines could be done with hikers. Other ideas are involving our Patrol and conducting education stations. I'm hoping Romp can take action on some of these ideas as we move forward.

Henry Pastorelli

Coyote Lake Harvey Bear Ranch Update

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environmental concerns. Some trails may be seasonal due to soil moisture conditions in winter.

In addition, regional trail connections to Bay Area Ridge Trail, Anza Historical Trail, and to other park areas (Henry Coe State Park) are also included in every design.

One design does include an 18 or 27 hole golf course in the West Flat area and the potential revenue generation for the Park is what keeps this as a viable option.

What remains to be seen is how the Parks Department will be able to fund the construction of this Park. But there are capital monies available for new projects and we hope a significant portion would be directed to Phase I implementation of the park.

After a community meeting, the Task Force and Parks staff will begin working on a design which may combine features from any or all three of the alternatives.

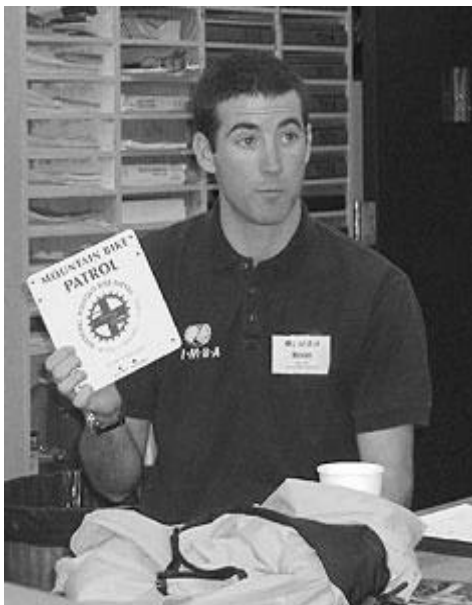
NMBP Patrol Coordinator Attends ROMP Clinic

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the next day. Do you suppose that many kids come home to find their folks building teeter totters in the front yard? Pretty cool.

Saturday, January 26, 2002.

The day started early as we set up for the clinic at a local middle school. One of the ROMP patrollers also happens to teach there, so the space was donated. By 8:45am there were over 22 people in attendance, three of which were land managers. John Heenan, of the Santa Clara County Parks Department, gave a presentation as did Edward Orr of the California



Department of Forestry and Lori Raymaker from the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority. It was both encouraging to see land managers participating in the clinic and beneficial for patrollers to better understand their duties and responsibilities. After a brief IMBA presentation given by myself, Karen spent the rest of the afternoon expertly guiding the group through the patrol curriculum. After a group lunch at the local burrito joint, everyone suited up and grabbed their bikes for a little bicycle skills practice. Due to rainy weather and muddy trails we were confined to the school ! gymnasium and the stairs outside. A few cones and the aforementioned teeter totter made riding indoors relatively exciting. This was followed by the graduation ceremony. Karen had certificates printed up and ready to go. Each participant had their picture taken while receiving their certificate. Karen will email each of them with their graduation photo. How cool is that?

Sunday, January 27, 2002.

Karen and John pick me up at the hotel at 8am. It's time to get back on the plane and that time has come too soon. It was refreshing to get out of the office and connect with a whole group of passionate mountain bikers like myself. I feel optimistic about the future of the National Mountain Bike Patrol program, as more and more land managers around the country look to us for assistance and support. And best of all, I feel like I'll be leaving San Jose having made a few new friends.

Hammer Nutrition Sponsors ROMP Patrol

Hammer Nutrition, the makers of Hammer Gel, my favorite energy fuel, have agreed to sponsor our Chapter of the National Mountain Bike Patrol by providing 250 gel samples and 12 jugs of hammer gel for our Patrollers to use while patrolling the trails.

Hammer Gel comes in eight delicious flavors, but Espresso is my personal favorite flavor of this complete endurance fueling system.

The packets will be packed in the Patrollers backpacks and used to help trail users who may be in need of an energy boost to make it back home, and for the Patrollers, to help them in the performance of their duties.

I want to thank Joe Arnone, the Sponsorship Coordinator for Hammer Gel, and all the people at Hammer Gel, for this generous contribution to our efforts of keeping our trails safe and enjoyable for all trail users.

Karen Morgan ROMP/NMBP

IMBA Meets with Local Advocates in Berkeley

...by Rod Brown

IMBA Executive Director Tim Blumenthal and the IMBA board and staff met with local advocates and donors at a ride and dinner sponsored by Clif Bar in Berkeley in January. ROMP members Patty Ciesla and Charles Jalgunas, Karen and John Morgan, and Cornelia Woodworth and Rod Brown discussed the status of local biking and traded ideas with other advocates and renewed contacts with local sponsors and racers.

Blumenthal made a presentation and discussed the status of mountain biking nationally, and noted that the Bay Area was a national hot spot due to its strong demand for trails and ongoing access problems. Blumenthal also noted how cyclists were getting involved in land management as high ranking staff or as appointed or elected officials, indicative of how cycling has entered the mainstream.

ROMP members came away from the event with several ideas and initiatives that you will be hearing more about in the future. One of these, a membership drive in conjunction with IMBA, is already being planned.

March and April Rides

(check the website—there are always new rides being added!)

Sunday, March 3

B/EASY/10/1500 – ROMP 1st Sunday Social Ride.

Meet in the Grizzly Flat parking lot on Skyline Blvd. (3 mi. north of Hwy 9 and 3 mi. south of Page Mill Rd.) ready to ride at 10 AM. We'll ride the trails in Long Ridge and Saratoga Gap OSPs. The ride has several steep hills. For more info contact Claire and Dave at 408-255-3464 or crashcall@scoreone.com and tripman@scoreone.com, respectively.

Tuesday, March 5

B/INT/23/1500 – ROMP Alpine Road Auto-Free Mountain-Bike Ride.

This all-legal, mostly offroad nightride, will meet southbound Caltrain #66 at 5:02 PM, and northbound #81 at 5:05 PM at the California Ave. Caltrain station. From there we'll roll up through Arastradero Preserve to Alpine Rd. and Willowbrook in Portola Valley. At 6:15 PM we'll meet anyone driving up (please park on Willowbrook) at this intersection. Next we'll pedal up old Alpine Rd. to Page Mill Rd. at Monte Bello Ridge. Returning we meet the northbound Caltrain #95 at 8:26 PM, the southbound #66 at 9:03 PM. There are a bevy of bicycle-friendly eateries on California Ave. to hang at 'til the desired train arrives. This ride is for intermediate riders with 3+ hr. headlight systems; reflectors and flashing rear lights are also highly recommended. Route will consist of 2 miles on singletrack, 5 miles on dirt roads, and 16 miles on paved roads. The pace is slow, and cloudsplitting is a must at the summit. This ride is geared for fun. For further information, contact Jim at 650-493-8774 or ssulljm@juno.com.

Tuesday, March 5

B/INT/6/1000 - St. Joseph's Social Ride in Los Gatos

We will meet and greet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos at 4:30pm every Tuesday in March. Rain within 12 hours of the ride cancels. For more info contact Karen or John Morgan at 408-224-6879 or kmorgan@jyda.net.

Saturday, March 9

C/INT/18/2500 - Fort Ord Sea Otter Ride. Meet at 10:00 AM at Reservation Rd. Entrance. Wanna get in shape for the Sea Otter?(too late!) Wanna ride all the trails of the cross country course but at a more leisurely pace than race day? Come join us at 10:00 at the Reservation Rd. entrance. Take Hwy 101 south to Hwy 68 west, turn right on Reservation Road, an immediate left on Portola to the parking area at the end. Rain within 24 hours may cancel ride - check with ride leader. For further information, contact Jim Lauth at 408-739-3946 or jhlauth@earthlink.net.

Sunday, March 10

Deadline for April Ride Submissions – Send your ride info via the scheduling page or to the ride coordinator at ride@romp.org or 408-374-6136. More details here: <http://www.romp.org/rides/rideform.html>

Sunday, March 10

C/INT/15/2500 – ROMP 2nd Sunday Ride in Soquel Demo Forest.

Meet at 10 AM on Highland Way at the SDF bridge entrance. SDF's sweet singletrack can be technically challenging and there's also a fair amount of climbing on this ride, though most of it is on fireroad. We'll keep a moderate pace and do frequent regroupings. To get to SDF, take HWY 17 to Summit Rd and head southeast for about 10 miles. Summit Rd. changes to Highland along the way. About 3 miles before the SDF entrance, you'll have to make a right turn at a stop sign, then quickly bear to the left (staying on Highland). Park on road near entrance bridge to SDF. For more info on

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General Ride Info

Ratings code

Pace / Technical difficulty / Mileage / Approximate elevation gain

Pace

A – Slow; social or introductory ride. Riders need not be experienced or fit.
B – Moderate; recreational ride.
C – Quick; fun and fitness ride with multiple hours of strong riding.
D – Sustained, fast; sweaty, intense training ride.
E – Hammerfest; riders should have their heads and knees examined!

Pace generally reflects climbing speed; downhill speed in most local areas is limited to 15 mph. A, B, and C rides are “no drop” rides with regroupings as needed and rest breaks appropriate for weather, terrain and pace. D and E rides may drop riders who cannot maintain the pace; the drop policy may be stated in the ride listing, or ask the ride leader.

Technical Difficulty

EASY – Smooth singletrack or fire road; obstacles such as rocks and roots might exist but are not numerous.

INTERmediate – Steep, rutted fire road; singletrack with extended sections that can include medium or large rocks and roots; stream crossings; exposure; long singletrack descents.

DIFFicult – Singletrack with very steep and/or rocky sections; narrow trails; exposed sideslopes; downhill-side-sloped sections.

EXTreme – Singletrack with extended steep climbs or descents over rough terrain; many tight switchbacks and turns. Portions may require portage.

Notes

For your first ROMP ride, try one of our monthly A, B, or C rides to get an idea of pace and technical difficulty.

HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL ROMP RIDES. Please be prepared for the ride (make sure your bike is in working order, bring appropriate tools, food, water, clothing, etc.). All riders will need to sign a waiver before every ride; minors will need a parent or guardian to sign their release.

In general, rain at the area of the ride within 48 hours of the ride cancels. But, because different trails can withstand the weather differently, we allow the ride leader to make the final decision. If you are unsure about whether a particular ride will go on, contact the ride leader.

Interested in leading a ride?

Contact Paul Nam or Chris Voci-Nam at 650-493-8774 or ride@romp.org by the tenth of the preceding month for newsletter listing. Visit www.romp.org for detailed help on leading a ride or to submit your ride online.

Survey Deadline Extended!

All you ROMPsters who haven't turned in your survey yet, you still have a chance. Because the newsletter was so delayed in delivery, we're extending the survey deadline until April 1st (and that's no April fools joke!) If you don't have a copy, you can find it on the web at:

<http://www.romp.org/club/survey.pdf>

ROMP needs your input! Please fill out and return this survey and have your voice heard.

Second ROMP NMBP Clinic Held

The second ROMP National Mountain Bike Patrol Certification Clinic was held on February 26, 2002 at Bernal Intermediate School in San Jose. Sixteen attendees, some from as far away as Concord and Fairfield, came to learn about and be trained as, National Mountain Bike Patrollers. The clinic was a full day of training, with emphasis on understanding the duties and responsibilities of a Patroller, and how it compliments Land Managers' efforts to manage their trail systems.

We were proud to host Kevin Stein, the National Mountain Bike Patrol Coordinator for IMBA, who flew out from Colorado to attend the clinic and touch bases with our local patrollers. A follow-up article on his visit can be found on the IMBA website at www.imba.com/nmbp/news.html.

We were pleased that two representatives of our local Land Managers, Ed Orr of the California Department of Forestry and Lori Raymaker of the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, in attendance. They're contributions to the clinic helped the Patrollers understand the many social, environmental and ecological issues and many responsibilities that they face while on duty. This mutual understanding of each other's role in the development and maintenance of trails is critical to cooperation between the Land Managers and the Patrollers.

There will be another certification clinic in the Rockville area soon. I encourage interested ROMP members to participate in that one if they missed the last clinic. The details will be posted on the ROMP digest as soon as it is determined.

Karen Morgan

Bay Trail at Moffett Field

(Continued from page 1)

hiking trails around the perimeters of San Francisco and San Pablo bays. More than 130 parks and open spaces will be connected by the Bay Trail.

Moffett Field portion of the trail will run approximately two miles along the perimeter of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Center.

"We are pleased to be working with Association of Bay Area Governments to help plan for the completion of the Bay Trail," center director Dr. Henry McDonald said in announcing the agreement this week. "The connection of the trail between Mountain View and Sunnyvale will benefit not only our local communities, but also the entire region."

Rides Continued

(Continued from page 8)

SDF, see <http://www.live.com/mtb/rides/SoquelDemo.html>. Rain within 48 hours of ride may cancel. For more info, contact Jim Lauth at 408-739-3946 or

Monday, March 11

B/INT/10/1100 - Getting Warmed Up for Spring. Meet in the parking lot at the west end of Prospect Rd. for a great evening ride [in Fremont Older OSP and Stevens Canyon County Park]. Be ready to ride at 4:30 PM. This will be about a 90 minute ride. Rain cancels. Tyler French (408)756-7396 work.

Tuesday, March 12

B/INT/6/1000 - St. Joseph's Social Ride in Los Gatos

We will meet and greet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos at 4:30pm every Tuesday in March. Rain within 12 hours of the ride cancels. For more info contact Karen or John Morgan at 408-224-6879 or kmorgan@jyda.net.

Saturday, March 16, 2002

B/INT/18-20/2000---Fort Ord Trails

Meet at 11:00 am, ready to ride, at the trailhead on the end of Creekside Road. We'll ride Red Rock, "Lombard", Hurl Hill, Goat Trail and other sections of the Sea Otter Classic cross country race course. Bring all necessary supplies and \$\$ for an after-ride meal at La Fogata in old town Salinas. To get there, take Hwy 101 south onto Hwy 68 west, turn right on Reservation Road, then an immediate left on Portola, and finally a right Creekside. Richard Holtermann (408)226-6871, (408)578-5731 ext.223 or mtbholt@yahoo.com

Sunday, March 17

D/DIFF/15/2800 - ROMP 3rd Sunday Advanced Ride in El Corte de Madera.

We'll leave at 10 AM from the Skeggs Point lookout on Skyline Blvd, approximately 5 miles north of the Hwy 84/Skyline intersection. This advanced ride will be filled with technical challenges. For more info contact Dave at 408-255-3464 or tripman@scoreone.com.

C/DIFF/11/2100 - ROMP 3rd Sunday

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Rides Continued

(Continued from page 9)

Not-As-Advanced Ride in El Corte de Madera. We'll leave at the same time and place as the Advanced Ride. For more info contact Clair at 408-255-3464 or crashcall@scoreone.com.

Monday, March 18

B/INT/10/1100 - Getting Warmed Up for Spring. Meet in the parking lot at the west end of Prospect Rd. for a great evening ride [in Fremont Older OSP and Stevens Canyon County Park]. Be ready to ride at 4:30 PM. This will be about a 90 minute ride. Rain cancels. Tyler French (408)756-7396 work.

Tuesday, March 19

B/INT/6/1000 - St. Joseph's Social Ride in Los Gatos
See March 5th St. Joseph's Ride for details.

Tuesday, March 19

B/INT/23/1500 – ROMP Alpine Road Auto-Free Mountain-Bike Ride

See March 5th Alpine Auto-Free Ride for details.

Saturday, March 23

A/EASY/6/500 – ROMP 4th Saturday Beginners Clinic. Beginners-only ride and clinic covering trail etiquette, safety, riding technique, control, equipment and basic repair. Meet and park at the corner of Skyline Blvd. and Page Mill at 10 AM. Please RSVP to be sure of a spot, ROMP membership not required. Helmet required, water and gloves highly recommended. Ride canceled by rain within 48 hours prior to the ride. For reservations and other info, contact Jim Lauth at 408-739-3946 or jhlauth@earthlink.net.

Monday, March 25

B/INT/10/1100 - Getting Warmed Up for Spring. Meet in the parking lot at the west end of Prospect Rd. for a great evening ride [in Fremont Older OSP and Stevens Canyon County Park]. Be ready to ride at 4:30 PM. This will be about a 90 minute ride. Rain cancels. Tyler French (408)756-7396 work.

Tuesday, March 26

B/INT/6/1000 - St. Joseph's Social Ride in Los Gatos

We will meet and greet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos at 4:30pm every Tuesday in March. Rain within 12 hours of the ride cancels. For more info contact Karen or John Morgan at 408-224-6879 or kmorgan@jyda.net.

Sunday, March 31

B/INT/12/1400+ – ROMP Last Sunday of the Month Wilder Ranch Ride.

Meet in the parking lot near the rest-rooms, ready to ride at 10 AM. We like to keep this ride social and maintain a comfortable pace, with "do-overs" on some of the more technical areas. For more info contact Michael and Jain Light at 831-662-9744 or malite@bikerider.com.

April Rides

Tuesday, April 2

B/INT/23/1500 – ROMP Alpine Road Auto-Free Mountain-Bike Ride
See March 5th Alpine Auto-Free Ride for details.

Sunday, April 7

B/EASY/10/1500 – ROMP 1st Sunday Social Ride.
See March 3rd Sunday Social Ride

Sunday, April 14

C/INT/15/2500 – ROMP 2nd Sunday Ride in Soquel Demo Forest
See March 10th for Soquel Sunday Ride

Tuesday, April 16

B/INT/23/1500 – ROMP Alpine Road Auto-Free Mountain-Bike Ride
See March 5th Alpine Auto-Free Ride for details.

Sunday, April 21

D/DIFF/15/2800 – ROMP 3rd Sunday Advanced Ride in El Corte de Madera.
See March 17th for details

C/DIFF/11/2100 – ROMP 3rd Sunday Not-As-Advanced Ride in El Corte de Madera.

See March 17th for details.

Saturday, April 27

A/EASY/6/500 – ROMP 4th Saturday Beginners Clinic.
See March 23rd Beginners Clinic

More Rides and Ride Leaders Needed

The spring is here so it's time to crank up the pedalling. As an added incentive, ROMP will pay the membership fee for anyone who leads eight or more rides during one year.

Last minute rides can be posted to the email list and web page. To post a ride to the email list, simply send your email to romp@topica.com. To post a ride to the web page, visit www.romp.org and click "Schedule a ride", phone the ride coordinator, or forward it to ride@romp.org.

Multiple rides at the same location on the same day are fine. ROMP rides are typically well attended, sometimes in excess of the 8-10 riders that are easily managed, so the more rides the better.

Sunday, April 28

B/INT/12/1400+ – ROMP Last Sunday of the Month Wilder Ranch Ride.
See March 31st Last Sunday Wilder Ride for details.

ROMP Welcomes New Members

Joseph Carl Barretta
Gary & Karen Chamberlain
Andrea DeRochi & Luke Moix
Tom Driscoll
Edwin Gackstetter
Gilles Grosгурin
Brett Hallinan
Esther Kim
Matthew Kramer
Shane & Desiree Reed
Craig & Shannon Rosa
Jim Ross & Family
Jason Sager
Paul Sanford
Phillip Shoemaker
Jackie Uribe & Family
David J. Wieland
John Wetzel



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Willow Glen Bicycles



The Bicycle Outfitter 963 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos 650-948-8092 www.bicycleoutfitter.com

Broken Spoke 890 Laurel Street, San Carlos 650-594-9210 www.brokenspoke.com

Calmar Cycles 2236 El Camino Real, Santa Clara 408-249-6907 www.calmarcycles.com

Chain Reaction 1451 El Camino Real, Redwood City 650-366-6620; 2310 Homestead (at Foothill Plaza), Los Altos 408-735-8735 www.chainreaction.com

Cupertino Bike Shop 10493 S. De Anza Blvd, Cupertino 408-255-2217 www.cupertinobike.com

Palo Alto Bicycles 170 University Ave. Palo Alto 650-328-7411 www.paloaltobicycles.com

Slough's Bike Shoppe 260 Race St., San Jose 408-293-1616

Start To Finish Bicycles 1171 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara 408-261-7420; 40922 Fremont Blvd., Fremont 510-440-9300; 2530 Lombard St., SF 415-202-9830 www.starttofinish.com

Summit Bicycles 100-A S. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos 408-399-9142; 843 Gilman St., Berkeley 510-524-5398; 1111 Burlingame Ave., Burlingame 415-343-8483 www.summitbicycles.com

Trail Head Cyclery 14450 Union Ave, San Jose 408-369-9666 www.trailheadonline.com

Calabazas Cyclery 6140 Bollinger Rd., San Jose 408-366-2453 www.calabazas.com

Light&Motion, 300 Cannery Row, Monterey, 831.645-1538 www.bikelights.com