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MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

LEADING THE PARTICIPATION OF MOUNTAIN CYCLISTS IN THE TRAIL COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2005

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Skyline thru Huddart?

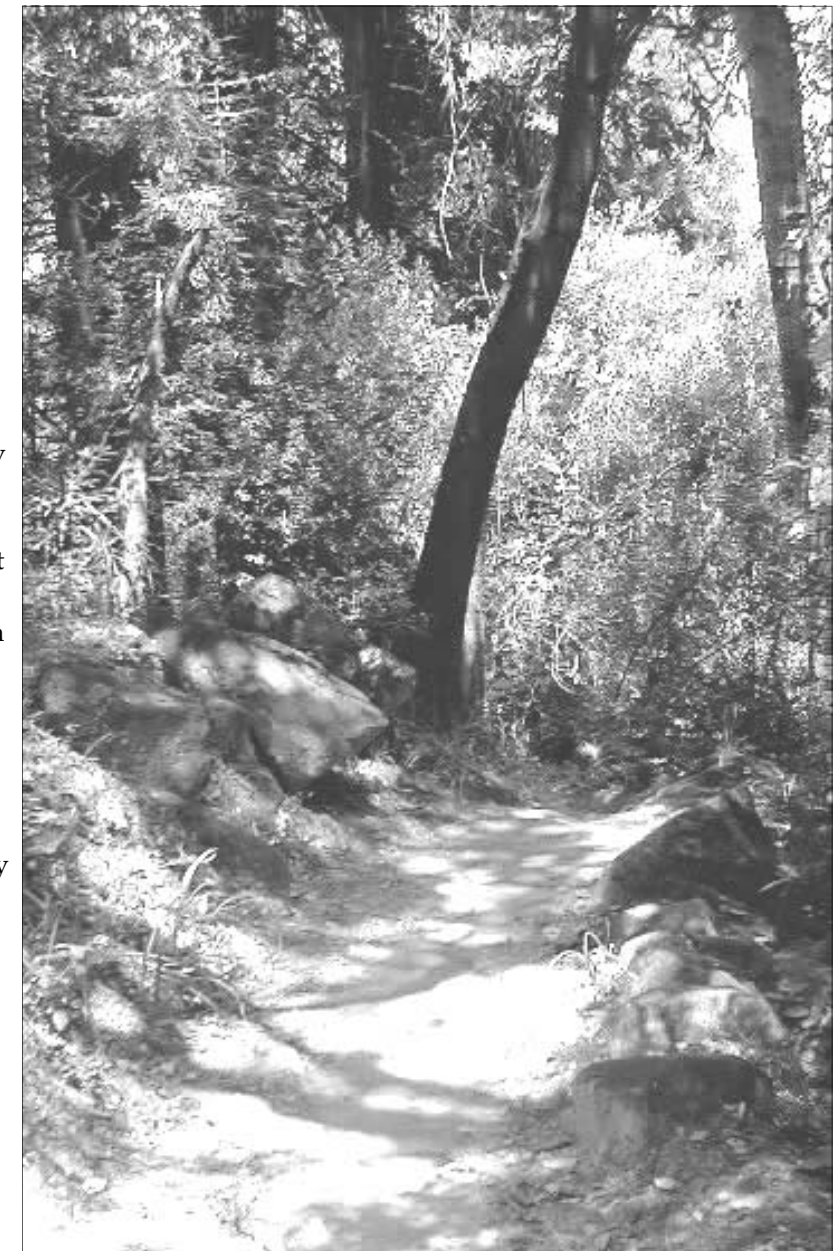
By Jim Sullivan

NORCAMBA executive director Patty Ciesla and ROMP board member Jim Sullivan had a meeting on Sept 27th with new San Mateo County Parks(SMCP) director Dave Holland and head planner for San Mateo County(SMCO), Sam Herzberg. Our conversation ranged from potential regional trails connectors through Huddart to longer term shared trails goals of a broader nature in SMCP. Specifically, possibilities of bicycle trails connecting through the bay area ridge trail, water dept lands, and SMCP to existing bike accessible MROSD lands, El Corte De Madera and Purissima Creek to the west of skyline.

My feeling is Sam and Dave are sincere about getting a bay to skyline legal bike trail through Huddart Park on the south side of Kings Mt. road. For SMCP, as with pretty much any existing government agency, change is hard, but Bicycle access within SMCP is long overdue. New SMCP director Dave Holland's 30+ year employment history with the US Forest service as natural resource and outdoor recreation manager presents mountain bikers with someone who is generally open to safe, shared use trails.

I'm optimistic we've gotten someone who will treat our ranks fairly, however, time will tell if he's able to move his agency toward truly multi-use parks trails. This new policy will run counter with the entrenched anti-mountain bike element which shadows all within these parks.

ROMP members from SMCO can show their support of new directions within SMCP by supporting the sales tax increase being floated in the next election cycle that will directly benefit SMCPs. Let your district representatives know (see contact list following article) that as a taxpayer and mountain bike rider, you expect access on a bicycle to some dirt trails within these parks you support with your hard earned tax dollars At ROMP we look forward as to



The buff singletrack of Huddart is not the trail experience many mountain bikers are looking for, although it would be great to connect to other regional trails.

(Continued on page 8)

Saso Bicycles Saso Cycles. dsaso@aol.com or call at (408) 926-0183

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

LIGHT & MOTION



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

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



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

cupertinobike.com



Sunshine Bicycles. 309 First St. Gilroy, 408 842 4889

Zanotti Cycles 4396 Enterprise Place, Suite A; Fremont, CA 94538. 510-490-4030. info@zanotticycles.com



Willow Glen Bicycles Willow Glen Cycles. 1111 Willow St. San Jose, 95125. 408-2932606

Passion Trail Bikes For the Love of Mountain Biking 415 Old County Rd. Belmont 650-620-9798 passiontrailbikes.com



Summit Bicycles 111 East Main Street., Los Gatos 408/399-9142; 1111 Burlingame Ave., Burlingame 650-343-8483; 1820 4th Street, San Rafael 415-456-4700

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



BikeMapDude Productions MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL GUIDES

BikeMapDude: bikemapdude.com



Walt's Cycle and Fitness

Walt's Cycle and Fitness. 116 Carroll Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 408-736-2630

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



Crossroads Bicycles 217 N Santa Cruz Ave # C, Los Gatos, CA 408-354-0555

Crossroads Bicycles



CHAIN REACTION BICYCLES

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

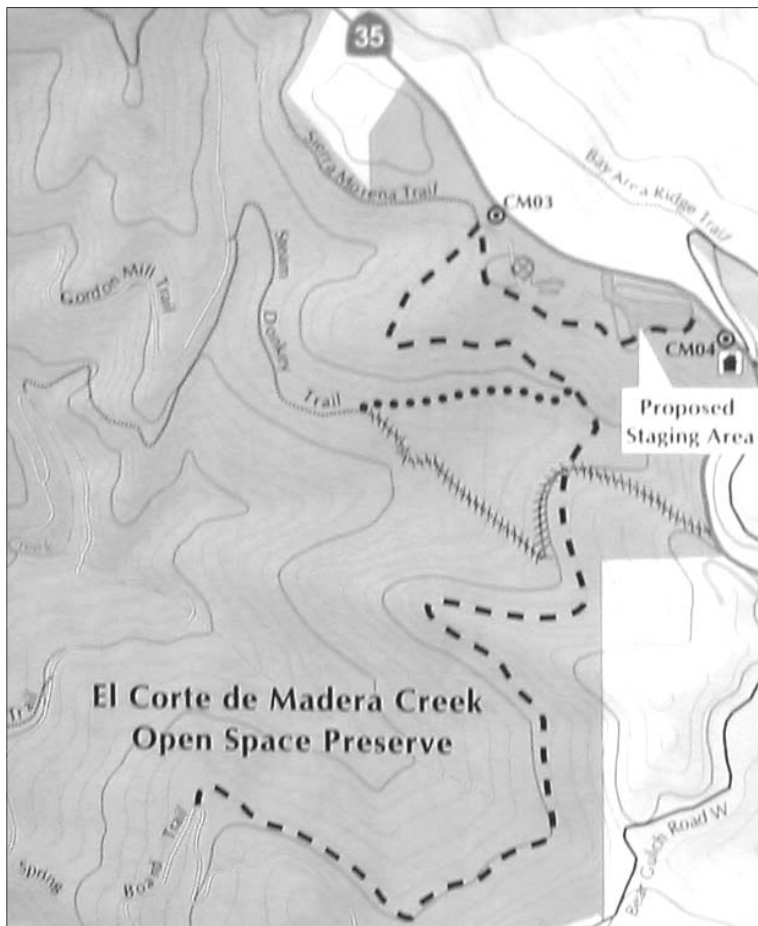
Posture Pros Personal Training 955 Fremont Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024 650.224.4354 al@posturepros.net



ECDM Update

By Josh Moore

On Saturday, October 22, 2005 Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District held a meeting to discuss future plans for the El Corte de Madera Open Space Preserve. There were five



members of the mountain bike community present, including myself, Berry Stevens, John Abernathy and Patty Ciesla.

The primary focus of the meeting is a proposed new parking lot that would be located between gates CM03 and CM04, which is at the top of the Gordon Mill trail. The lot would hold up to 80 cars and two equestrian trailers, 2 restrooms and possibly a boot and tire washing facility to curtail the spread of Sudden Oak Death.

The Parking lot is intended to provide better facilities and alleviate parking problems along Skyline Boulevard and at Skeggs Point. Skeggs is a Caltrans Vista Point, and Caltrans would like ensure that drivers have the opportunity to rest and enjoy the view. Caltrans could also impose parking time limits at any time.

Many neighbors expressed their concerns about the location of the new entrance to the parking lot, which would be roughly halfway between the two existing gates. This location may have the best lines of site for turning in and out of the preserve, but may also increase traffic accidents on a notoriously dangerous road, and interfere with neighbors' access to their own homes.

To provide access to the trail system from the parking lot, MROSD proposed some new trails, and trail closures. The first new trail staff proposed was a new connector from the parking lot to Gordon Mill. This would be a five to seven foot wide trail that would be the primary entrance to the park. Use of the existing fire road is discouraged because these are supposed to be for public safety access. From this new trail

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MROSD Watershed Protection Project

El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve encompasses 2,821 acres in the upper headwaters of the San Gregorio Creek watershed. This watershed provides critical habitat for Steelhead trout and Coho salmon, both federally threatened species on California's Central Coast. These species have experienced dramatic population declines due to water diversion projects and from sedimentation associated with road construction, mining, grazing, and timber harvesting. Because of

the Preserve's key location within the watershed, the extensive network of former logging roads that comprise many of its trails, and the incredible popularity of the Preserve among hikers and mountain bikers, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has worked in partnership with the National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board to prepare a comprehensive program to protect

downstream fish habitat.

The purpose of the Watershed Protection Program is to protect and restore watershed integrity while maintaining opportunities for year-round multiple use recreation and environmental education. The Program includes state-of-the-art improvements to the Preserve's road and trail system, long-term maintenance and monitoring activities, and an extensive environmental education and outreach component.

ROMP Membership Application, Renewal, Change of Address, and Donation Form

ROMP is a group of local, energetic mountain bikers who have discovered the need for an active representation for the mountain biking public, and for an organized, responsible attitude in the practices of off-road bicyclists. ROMP needs YOUR support.

Name		
Family Members		
Address		
		Phone
City	email	
State	Zip	Membership Type
Send Newsletter		Individual (\$20.00) Family (\$25.00) Student (\$10.00)
Via US postal service Just send me an email		New Renewal Change of Address Donation \$

READ AND SIGN WAIVER BELOW (Required each year to process membership)

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WHEELMEN d/b/a LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS ("LAB") RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AND PARENTAL CONSENT AGREEMENT ("AGREEMENT") IN CONSIDERATION of being permitted to participate in any way in Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers ("Club") sponsored Bicycling Activities ("Activity"), I, for myself, my personal representatives, assigns, heirs, and next of kin:

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of Bicycling Activities and that I am qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in such Activity. I further acknowledge that the Activity will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the Activity and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I further agree and warrant that if at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the Activity.
2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that:(a)BICYCLING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS OF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING PERMANENT DISABILITY, PARALYSIS, AND DEATH ("RISKS"); (b)these Risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Activity, the condition in which the Activity takes place, or THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" NAMED BELOW; (c)there may be OTHER RISKS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LOSSES either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES I incur as a result of my participation or that of the minor in the Activity.
3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Club, the LAB, their respective administrators, directors, agents, officers, members, volunteers, and employees, other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the Activity takes place, (each considered one of the "RELEASEES" herein) FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES ON MY ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS; AND I FURTHER AGREE that if, despite this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the RELEASEES, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE Releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim.

I HAVE READ THIS AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND HAVE SIGNED IT FREELY AND WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT OR ASSURANCE OF ANY NATURE AND INTEND IT TO BE A COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL LIABILITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW AND AGREE THAT IF ANY PORTION OF THIS AGREEMENT IS HELD TO BE INVALID THE BALANCE, NOTWITHSTANDING, SHALL CONTINUE IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

X _____ X _____

(Release Signature of Applicant) (Release Signature(s) Of Additional Family Members 18 and Over)

FOR MINORS ONLY COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

AND I, THE MINOR'S PARENT AND/OR LEGAL GUARDIAN, UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF BICYCLING ACTIVITIES AND THE MINOR'S EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITIES AND BELIEVE THE MINOR TO BE QUALIFIED, IN GOOD HEALTH, AND IN PROPER PHYSICAL CONDITION TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH ACTIVITY. I HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, COVENANT NOT TO SUE, AND AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE RELEASEES FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES ON THE MINOR'S ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS AND FURTHER AGREE THAT IF, DESPITE THIS RELEASE, I, THE MINOR, OR ANYONE ON THE MINOR'S BEHALF MAKES A CLAIM AGAINST ANY OF THE RELEASEES NAMED ABOVE, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE RELEASEES FROM ANY LITIGATION EXPENSES, ATTORNEY FEES, LOSS LIABILITY, DAMAGE, OR COST ANY MAY INCUR AS THE RESULT OF ANY SUCH CLAIM.

(Print Name Of Parent/Guardian) (Print Address and Phone Number If Different from Above)

X _____

(Release Signature of Parent/Guardian) (Please print names and ages of minors)

Questions? For new member information, call Linda Wegner (408) 257-8284

Send this form with check payable to

ROMP - Attention: Membership, PO Box 1723, Campbell CA 95009-1723

Mail Check, size and fabric to:
ROMP, Box 1723. Campbell, CA 95009-1723

Jersey Sale!

Jerseys: \$55 + \$2 shipping

The new, green, light blue, and yellow Jerseys have arrived! These Voler Jerseys run a little small so we suggest ordering one size larger than normal.

To order, fill out the following:

(or pick them up at a club meeting or by arrangement at a club ride

Item	Size	Fabric	Qty.	Subtotal
Order total :				
Shipping \$2 ea.:				
Total:				

Name _____
 Address _____

 Email _____
 Phone _____

Send form with check payable to:

ROMP - Attention: Apparel
 PO Box 1723
 Campbell CA 95009-1723



T-Shirts

Cotton: \$15
 Wicking: \$30

Hats

\$10

Romp Directory

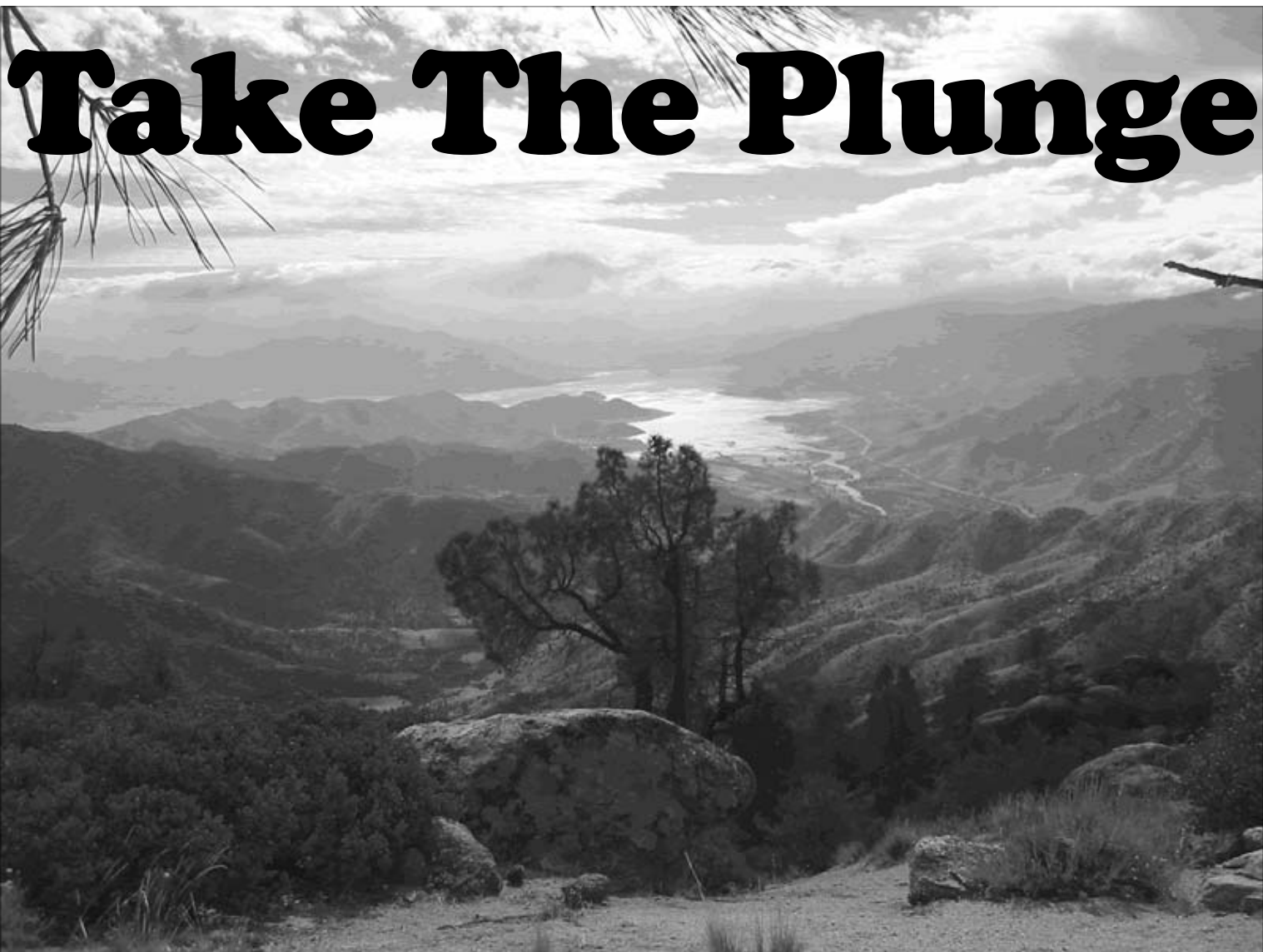
PO Box 1723, Campbell, CA 95009-1723 408-420-7342 www.romp.org

President	Josh Moore	408-420-7342	president@romp.org
Vice President (Interim)	Paul Nam	408-446-3745	vicepresident@romp.org
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Ride Coordinator	Julie Barott	650-814-8271	ride@romp.org
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National Mtn Bike Patrol	Dave Wieland	408-371-2729	nmbp@romp.org
Web Master	Tom Oshima		webmaster@romp.org



ROMP Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings are where the vast majority of ROMP business is conducted. They occur at 7 PM on the fourth Monday of each month (except December) at the Round Table Pizza, Sunnyvale Town and Country (408) 736-2242



By BerryStevens

Eight of us, plus my non-riding wife, Pam, headed up to Kernville, CA to ride the Cannell Plunge this past weekend Oct 15-16. The Plunge is now my standard for what constitutes an "Epic" ride. I has it all, stunning scenery, challenging trails of all varieties, high altitude climbing to give you a real workout, views to distract you while riding and just plain fun. For the metric weenies: 1:20 min shuttle, with a drop @ 9200' rolling single track up to 9400', ~30 miles depending on whether you climb Sherman Peak or a couple of the other variants, 2500' of climb, 9000' of descent, including the Plunge itself at the end which is 4800' of descent in 8 miles. You'll want a drogue chute for this one. Figure a 4-5 hour ride time depending on fitness and how many photos you take. A camera is a must for

this ride. So now you'll want to know "How do I do this ride?" Here's the info.

Getting there
 I-5 to Hwy 46 East to Hwy 99, from here you have a choice, the shorter but slower scenic approach or the longer, but higher speed (and still scenic) route thru Bakersfield. If you continue straight East across Hwy 99, Hwy 46 becomes Famoso Rd. then a left on Tule Rd, then another left on Bakersfield Glennville Rd to Glennville, where you turn right & take Hwy 155 up over Greenhorn Summit and down to Wofford Heights, then a left and a short drive up to Kernville. This route is a 10 for scenery, but is 40-50 miles of twisty, turny narrow road. Not for those prone to carsickness and no fun at night. In daylight, it's beautiful and well worth driving. Or you can take 99 South to Bakersfield, where you pick up Hwy 178 North, up thru Kern River Canyon, also a feast for the eyes, and up along the West shore of Lake Isabella to Kernville. Driving time for both is about the same, an 1:25 minutes. Go in one way, leave by the other.

How to do it
 This ride requires a shuttle, unless your name is Lance. Hook up with Mountain & River Adventures mntnriver.com/ for the shuttle; they're the only game in town. It costs \$30 for a 1:20 minute shuttle ride up the Kern River Canyon and Sherman Pass Rd to the top of Sherman Pass. The drive to Kernville & the \$\$ for the shuttle are worth the shuttle ride alone. I've never seen scenery & landscapes like it. Be sure to get a window seat on the van. Check these websites for ride

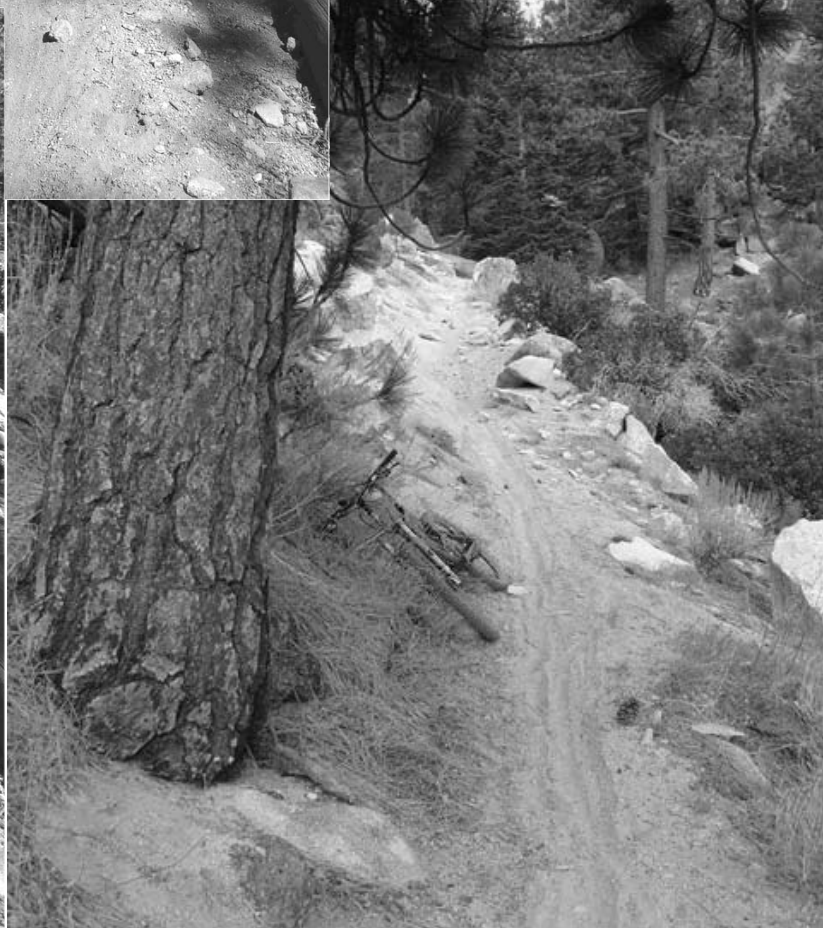
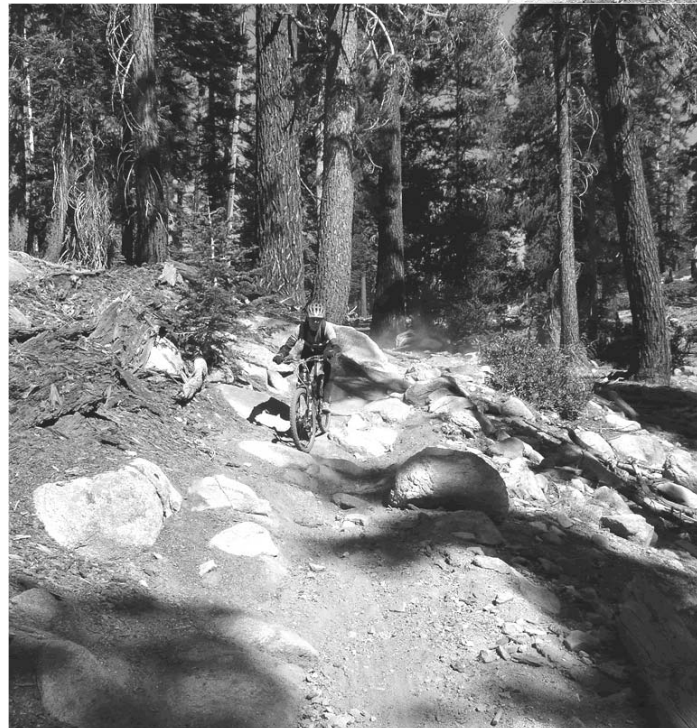
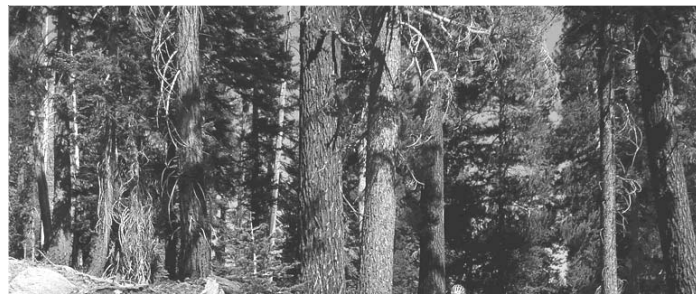
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descriptions & details.
fesengineering.com/kennedy/cannell.htm
ogrehut.net/trails.php/KernCounty/CannellPlunge
arnica.csustan.edu/mtbike/
mountainbikebill.com/CannellPlunge.htm

Things to Know

There's a fairly narrow time window to do this ride, unless you can tolerate high exertion at temperatures near 100 degrees. You spend the first 3/4 of the ride above 7000', so the trail isn't clear until summer, when it's hot, very hot, near or over 100deg most of the time, in town & on a lot of the ride. The higher elevations will still be in the 80's over the summer, plus the meadows will remain soggy until the fall. You



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would be challenged to carry enough fluids to do it in the Summer. So, from October until the snow flies is the best time to ride the Cannell Plunge. The day we rode, it was near 80 in town, but the low 40's @ the shuttle drop & for much of the first 1/2 of the ride. Regardless of when you ride, bring plenty of both water & your favorite sports drink plus plenty of food and layered clothing. Pace yourself, the most challenging part of the ride is at the end, The Plunge, and if



you're tired or dehydrated, it could lead to serious consequences. It's steep and technical in places; you need to be on your game when you get to it. Leg armor is a great idea; even if you don't biff, the vegetation will shred your shins, there's no trail maintenance up there. At the point where you see the sign for Cannell Trail, alongside the

meadow, DON'T take it. Stay on the fire road and it will save you getting wet slop all over you & your bike as well as avoid a hike-a-bike back up to the fire road. At least one of the ride descriptions describes this, it's great advice. Most of us rode 5" bikes which by consensus was the optimum compromise between bike weight and travel & comfort.

We did "Just Outstanding" the next day, which was a shuttle ride up to Greenhorn Summit to a ski area parking

lot on Rancheria Rd. The single track portions of this trail are guaranteed to put a BIG smile on your face. Twisty, fun and highly enjoyable; a great counterpoint to the previous day. The latter half of the ride is a LONG descent on Old State Highway, a smooth, unpaved road. The virtue of this part is the scenery, which is nearly as distracting as it was on the Plunge; the road itself is a snooze unless you want to push the speed & explore the limits of traction on a sandy road surface.

Bottom line, the whole area offers scenery like no other place you've ever been and the trails are unique and will keep you highly entertained. Go do it.



(Continued from page 1)

how the next few years play out for mountain bike access within SMCP.

District 1- Supervisor Mark Church
mchurch@co.sanmateo.ca.us
650-363-4571

District 2- Supervisor Jerry Hill
jhill@co.sanmateo.ca.us
650-363-4568

Supervisor Richard Gordon
rgordon@co.sanmateo.ca.us
650-363-4569

Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson
rosejg@co.sanmateo.ca.us
650-363-4570

Supervisor Adrienne J Tissier
atissier@co.sanmateo.ca.us
650-363-4572

Please direct your written comments in support of shared trails in SMCP to: Mr Dave Holland
dholland@co.sanmateo.gov
Mr Sam Herzberg
sherzberg@co.sanmateo.ca.us

Other Cycling Organizations

Access 4 Bikes access4bikes.com
PO Box 526, Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

Bay Area Velo Girls
650-347-9752 velogirls.com

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 btceastbay.org

Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition
916-663-4626 fatrac.org

International Mt. Biking Association (IMBA)
PO Box 7578, Boulder CO 80306
303-545-9011 imba.com

Monterey Mt. Bike Association (MoMBA)
PO Box 51928, Pacific Grove CA 93590
408-372-2134

Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC)
president@mbosc.org mbosc.org

Northern California Mountain Biking Association (NorCaMBA)
norcamba.org suefry@norcamba.org

Sonoma County Trails Council (SCTC)
sonomatrails.org/sctc/

San Jose Inner City Outings (San Jose ICO)
sierraclub.org/ico/sanjose/

Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
svbcbikes.org

Western Wheelers Bicycle Club
westernwheelers.org

Women's Mt. Biking and Tea Soc (WoMBATS)
wombats.org

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there is also a proposed new stretch of Bay Area Ridge trail. The alignment would be 3 feet wide and connect to the Spring Board Trail. The long-term plan is to eventually continue the Bay Area Ridge Trail toward the southeastern corner of ECdM and connect to La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve (currently not open to the public).

Unfortunately, the upper portion of Steam Donkey from gate CM04.5 down to Spring Board is slated to be closed. This is primarily due to continued progress on the Watershed Protection Plan (See inset on page 2). This portion of Steam Donkey is over grade and very close to a drainage. while I am sure there are a few riders able to climb and descend the steeps, others will be glad that they don't have to make the mistake of going "down" this trail again. The lower portion of Steam Donkey, "Voodoo", or "Totem" should remain open, although the bottom may be hardened to protect fish habitat downstream.

Overall, the leadership of ROMP feels these changes are an improvement to the trails in ECdM, providing better circulation, avoiding roads, and connect to other potential regional trails.

Other areas that will probably be impacted by the Watershed Protection Project at ECdM include Giant Salamander re-route. Currently construction is underway on singletrack uphill from the current alignment, which should look similar to Blue Blossom when complete. Also, the Fir Trail fire road going downhill from the top of the resolution trail may be closed.

For more information or to provide your comments on about the changes at ECdM, see openspace.org/plans_projects/el_corte_de_madera.asp or email Ana Ruiz at aruiz@openspace.org

LandManager Directory

Acterra (Arastradero Preserve) 3921 E. Bayshore Blvd., Palo Alto, CA 94303, 650-962-9876, fax 650-962-8234;
www.arastradero.org, www.acterra.org/
info@acterra.org (general),
www.participation.com/arastradero

California Recreational Trails Committee
Ken McKowen, Trails Coordinator, PO Box 942896, Sacramento 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, 650-329-2423

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

Henry W. Coe State Park 9000 East Dunne Ave, Morgan Hill 95037. 408-779-2728 Gavilan Sector Supervising Ranger Mike Ferry mferry@parks.ca.gov; Coe Senior Ranger Barry Breckling barryb@coepark.org;
www.coepark.parks.ca.gov

Monterey District California State Parks, Gavilan Sector; Henry W. Coe State Park.
P.O. Box 787; 19 Franklin Street; San Juan Bautista, CA 95045. 831-623-1659. Monterey District Superintendent C.L. Price

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos 94022; 650-691-1200; info@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

Passion Trail Bikes

By Charles Jalgunas

I have some news. Not trail work related this time, nor an announcement for an advocacy meeting. This time I would like to use the Sponsor Profile segment to report I am now the owner of a new bike shop on the Peninsula.

My life has lately been filled with trips to Home Depot, writing business plans, working deals with manufacturers, placing orders for Spring deliveries, taking Hands On Construction 101, and wrangling floor, door, paint, and alarm contractors. I have never learned so much in such a short time frame, nor worked as hard for such a sustained amount of time, and I still feel like I've only just started the hard part.

I incorporated on August 8 as Passion Trail Bikes, worked my last day at Trail Head on September 23, and now have a lease on a huge warehouse in Belmont that I am building into a cross between a museum, playground, showroom, and service center. I am posting photos at PassionTrailBikes.com as I go, along with some text as I have time to write it. I have been open for service appointments for a couple of weeks, and will be open regular hours starting November 1, Tuesday through Friday 10:00 to 7:00, and Saturday 9:00 til 6:00. I will continue to be open Sundays, Mondays, and evenings by appointment only. I will also be leading rides out from the shop, and allowing groups to hold meetings there after hours. Once we get the Kegerator fully plumbed, we also plan to have movie nights and other customer appreciation functions on weekends and nights.

Passion's showroom is going to feature bikes on display in their natural habitat, like taxidermy in a museum. Big bikes



on the North Shore ladder and 12 Steps/Toad's, trail bikes on the Damn Berry and Fruita dioramas, and maybe a single speed on the Demo Teeter Totter. The service department, and customer service in general, will be like no other shop around. Nothing but the best treatment of customers bikes, and the customers themselves.

I have Maverick signed up as a bike supplier, and should be receiving my first frame shipment any day now, and others in the works, but I don't plan on selling a ton of bikes. One at a time, set up perfectly and individually, suspension tuned and properly fitted for the best possible trail experience. I expect the majority of my business to be in fitting, tuning, and servicing my customers existing bikes, but Passion will also be a source for a la cart repair and upgrade parts, the coolest and best accessories, and will have the most earth-toned clothing selection in the area.

Stop by when you get a chance during my regular hours, or give me a call if you would like to make an appointment for a fitting or anything else. Shoot me an email at anytime at Charles@PassionTrailBikes.com Regardless of how you do it, please take the time to tell me what your shop doesn't do for you that mine should, or just say howdy.

Passion Trail Bikes, 415 C Old County Road
Belmont CA 94002
650-620-9798. PassionTrailBikes.com

Monthly Rides

Sundays

10:00 AM First Sunday Social Ride at Saratoga Gap (3:00) B/EASY/11/1500 Meet at 10am at Grizzly Flat on Skyline Blvd (inbetween Junction 9 and Page Mill Road). This is a social ride so there are plenty of breaks, and we wait for everyone. Bring a helmet, water and some power bars. After the ride we will go for lunch in Saratoga. Contact Information: Dave Tripier (408) 255-3464 tripier@aol.com

10:00 AM 2nd Sunday Ride at Soquel Demo Forest (4:00) C/INT/12-18/2500-3000 Meet at 10am at the entrance to SDF on Highland Way. From hwy 17, take the Summit Rd exit and head SE. Go 5 1/2 miles to the first stop sign, turn right and then bear left onto Highland Way. Go another 4 miles to the entrance. More info on SDF at mtb.live.com/rides/SoquelDemo.html. Rides will vary covering singletrack such as Ridge, Braille, Tractor, or Sawpit; Double loop option if you didn't have enough fun the first time down. Contact Information: Rich Andrews 408-738-1384 randrews@arc.nasa.gov mtb.live.com/rides/SoquelDemo.html

10:00 AM 3rd Sunday Ride at SDF (Demo Forest) (3:00) C-D/DIFF/15/3000 -- C-D/16-18/3000-4000 The third Sunday ride is now changing to SDF! Meet at 10am at the entrance to SDF on Highland Way. From hwy 17, take the Summit Rd exit and head SE. Go 5 1/2 miles to the first stop sign, turn right and then bear left onto Highland Way. Go another 4 miles to the entrance. We are going to be lot's of fun with 2 loops of super action :) Contact Information: Dave Tripier (408) 255-3464 tripier@aol.com

10:00 AM Fourth Sunday Ride to Skyline (4:00) C/30/4000 New Starting place. Meet at the corner of Stevens Canyon Rd and Redwood Gulch at 10:00am for a nice long ride. The route will vary from month to month depending on interest. The general plan is to head up Table Mountain or Monte Bello and explore the many parks and trails off Skyline. Contact Information: Josh Moore (408) 420 7342 josh_moore@comcast.net

10:00 AM Last Sunday - Wilder Ranch Ride (4:30) Enjoy 14 miles of single track along with breath-taking views of Monterey Bay. 1800' of elevation gain, Intermediate/Advanced ride... Regroup at each trailhead. Good food after. Meet in the parking lot near the restrooms. For more info, please email or call... M & J Location: Wilder Ranch State Park Santa Cruz CA Contact Information: Michael & Jain Light 831-662-9744 malight@pacbell.net

3rd Tuesdays

04:30 PM Alpine Road (3:00) This year round ride has a couple options on where to meet up. First chance meets the #262southbound@ 4:33 pm, + #169 northbound also @4:33 at the California Ave. caltrain station. RSVP a must if you plan on attending this ride, as the meeting places will vary depending on weather. From here we pedal

Calendar

through Stanford's "Professorville" on lightly traveled streets, over Old Page Mill rd, through Arastradero Preserve to The Portola Valley ranch . The 2nd chance to meet up occurs here @ 5:45, corner of Alpine rd. -Willowbrook in Portola Valley, please park on Willowbrook. The ride then meanders up Alpine rd, following El Corte De Madera creek , all the way to Page Mill rd x Skyline. This 3 hour ride requires the use of lights in the fall- winter months, loaner sets are available, and rear flashing lights are highly recommended. Please contact Jim beforehand for any equipment questions. This complete ride is for intermediate level riders, however, many of our participants show up and ride a portion of the distance just to stretch the legs after work. The main concept of this ride is FUN, any hammeheads are summarily ditched and left to prove something somewhere else. Contact Information: Jim Sullivan 650-493-8774 ssulljm@juno.com

Saturdays

2:30PM Second Saturday Social (2:00) B/EASY/7/900 This friendly, introductory ride covers most major trails in the preserve, including some moderate hills, jumps, tight switchbacks and single track. More skilled riders are encouraged to join us, socialize and provide support. Directions and Map. Take Oregon Expressway / Page Mill Rd south past hwy 280. Turn right on Arastradero, and right into the parking lot. Bring your helmet, a snack and water. Rain cancels. Location: Arastradero Open Space Preserve Parking lot near gate A Arastradero Rd. Palo Alto CA Contact Information: Josh Moore (408) 420 7342 josh_moore@comcast.net

10:00 AM 3rd Sat NMBP ride (4:00) This is a ride for the NMBP and all those who wish to ride with us and just have fun. I will change the ride location from time to time. But Half the rides will be in Soquel Demo Forest. Be ready to ride at 10:00am. Riding trails and duration will be determined by who the riders are and what there abilities are. This is a social ride for intermediate riders and above. But, know one gets left behind (but me). Location: ride changes monthly Contact Information: Dave Wieland 408 371-2729 traildog@sbcglobal.net

12:00 PM 4th Sat Basic Fixit Class (1:00) The fixit clinic is for current romp members only, membership forms available at clinic for easy sign up. RSVP is a must due to max class size limit. This hands on fixit class will go over the basic needs for preventative maintenance and trails repair of your mt bike. Fix a flat, adjust your derrailleurs, straighten a wheel, and anything else bike related that will get you back on the trail.

Location: Arastradero OSP Parking lot Arastradero Rd Palo Alto. Contact Information: Jim Sullivan 650-493-8774 ssulljm@juno.com

01:00 PM 4th Saturday Beginner's Clinic (3:00) We'll cover the basics of mountain biking while riding a combination of fireroads and singletrack. Be sure to bring a helmet, water, and something to eat. Please RSVP to Jim at 650-493-8774 or ssulljm@juno.com. RSVP is a must, as the meeting spot at the Preserve can vary with class focus. Location: Arastradero Preserve Arastradero Road Palo Alto CA Contact Information: Jim Sullivan 650-493-8774 ssulljm@juno.com

Special Events

Sunday, November 6, 2005

09:00 AM 11th Annual Tour of the S.F. Hills (5:00) The ride explores a multitude of neighborhoods in the city, taking the most difficult path from cafe to taqueria. With the many hilltops in the city, and with the usual good luck with weather conditions, the riders are treated to frequent magnificent views. The parade of cyclists winding down Lombard St. and then climbing the 32% grade on Filbert St. always attracts the attention of tourists. Other sites explored on the ride are Potrero Hill (with the fast



descent down the "other" crookedest street in the world), Coit Tower, Nob Hill, and Mt. Davidson. A bonus feature is the optional ascent of the Broderick St. sidewalk in Pacific Heights. This street, below the Levi mansion, is so steep that it is blocked off to traffic - the upper half being a driveway more crooked than Lombard St. A casual pace on the ride ensures that the attrition rate is low, but the prospect of climbing Hill St. after scarfing burritos in the Mission always sheds a few riders.

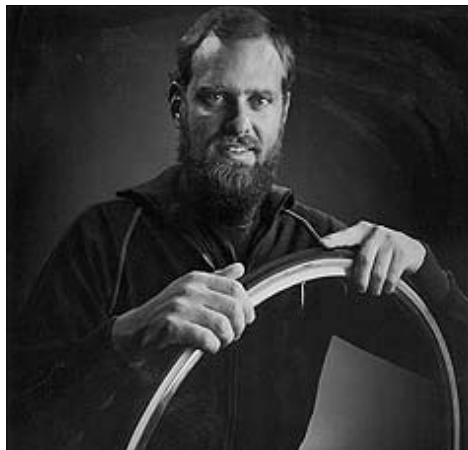
Friday, December 2, 2005

06:00 PM ROMP Christmas Party (4:00) Mark your calendars - Friday 12/2/05 evening is the 2005 ROMP Christmas Holiday Party at the Blue Pheasant in Cupertino. Mike Sinyard, President & Founder of Specialized Bikes will speak. \$25 for members, and \$30 for non-members.

6:00 PM Doors Open / Cash Bar

7:15 PM Dinner Starts

At 8:30 PM our guest speaker will be Mike Sinyard. In 1974, at the age of 24, Mike Sinyard began putting bikes together from Italian components he imported. He actually ran an import service, providing these sought after parts to California bike shops. Soon, mountain bikes became more common, but the choice was either a custom built, racey bike or a heavy rebuilt klunker. He knew he could build a viable bicycle for less than custom bikes cost, and thus the



Specialized Stumpjumper was born in 1981. His company's figures now exceed million in annual sales, with Specialized providing support for bicycle races and racers, and building innovating new parts and bikes every year. The firm moved to Morgan Hill in 1984, and receives good local support while supplying merchandise to over 3000 specialty bike shops in a dozen countries.

"I am quite passionately involved in cycling," Sinyard says. "Bicycles are more than just a business to me. They are an integral part of my life. I am involved in this sport because I love it." Mike lists two other familiar names in the industry as his heroes: Charlie Cunningham and Steve Potts. Among the bikes he has owned are a Ritchey (his first), Cunningham, Merckz, Potts, Ibis and Salsa.

Sinyard and his wife have two children and live in California. He hopes to continue to improve the mountain bike weight, comfort, durability and performance as well as to offer an affordable machine.

Location: The Blue Pheasant Banquet Room 22100 Stevens Creek Blvd Cupertino CA 95014

Contact Information: Linda Wegner 408 257-8284 retrobiker@earthlink.net

Sunday, December 11 2005

09:00 AM Coe TAC (5:00) West Cross Canyon Area. Trailwork in Henry Coe State Park sponsored by the Trail Advisory Council. RSVP

to Paul Nam is required. Location and times are subject to change. Generally meet at 9am in Hunting Hollow parking area. Volunteers will not be charged for parking. Duration can vary. Tools provided. Best to bring work gloves, long pants, and long sleeve shirt. Remember water. There may be poisin oak- be forewarned.

Location: Henry Coe State Park Morgan Hill CA Contact Information: Paul Nam + Phillip Strenfel vocinam@yahoo.com

Newsletter Mailing Party

This fun is repeated bi-monthly. If you would like to help next time (and eat some pizza and talk bikes at the same time), contact Glenn Wegner 408-257-8284 newsmailing@romp.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 MROSD also holds Trail Policy Committee meetings which develop and implement 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.

Mountain Cyclist

The Mountain Cyclist is the monthly newsletter of the Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers

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

◇ newsletter@romp.org

Send ride listings to the club web master

◇ Tom Oshima webmaster@romp.org

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 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 regroupas 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.