

# MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

LEADING THE PARTICIPATION OF MOUNTAIN CYCLISTS IN THE TRAIL COMMUNITY

JULY-AUGUST 2003

## Several ROMP Board Positions Currently Open

You love mountain biking, and you've done a great deal as a trails advocate. But there's a fun way that you can do even more for the sport you adore. If you think you might be interested in taking an office on the ROMP Board of Officers, several open positions make this an excellent time for you to get involved. Currently, ROMP is in need of a social coordinator, a Webmaster, and a race team captain for the club's newly forming race team.

At the June 2<sup>nd</sup> ROMP meeting, several new officers were voted in to fill half of the six open positions: John Morgan was elected as both Sponsor Coordinator and National Mountain Bike Patrol Coordinator, and Rich Andrews was elected as Trail Education Coordinator. But opportunities remain for three motivated ROMPers to jump in and take on a more active role with the group.

### What the Jobs Entail

The ROMP Social Coordinator's primary task is to create and manage events such as the annual picnic and Christmas party, dinner parties, and guest speaker appearances. (Past speakers have included the likes of Marla Streb, Gary Fisher, Keith Bontrager, and various land managers.) Much of the event-planning work can be delegated to other volunteers.

The Webmaster's job is to manage the ROMP Web site, in particular, spearheading the transition to a better host, and training other board members in the site management process so as to create a broader support base. ROMP's Web site ([www.romp.org](http://www.romp.org)) is in good shape at present but certainly could accommodate growth and enhancements by a creative individual.

The Race Team Captain will head up ROMP's nascent race team. Because it's a new role, this is a great opportunity to define the position and have an impact on the team's future. (The race team will participate in cross-

country races at local events such as the Sea Otter Classic and 24 Hours of Adrenaline at Laguna Seca and/or Tahoe.)

"Each post offers a lot of flexibility," says ROMP President Paul Nam. "Candidates must be willing to take a leadership role, attend some meetings, empower others, and put their own creative stamp and energy into mountain bike access advocacy."

If you'd like to be considered for any of these board vacancies, please contact either Paul Nam ([president@romp.org](mailto:president@romp.org)) or Claire Nippress ([vicepresident@romp.org](mailto:vicepresident@romp.org)).

**HIT THE DIRT WITH ROMP**—One of ROMP's most outstanding features is its sponsored rides. With summer in full swing, there's no better time to learn first-hand how much fun a ROMP ride can be, whatever your skill level. Check out pages 8-9 to view the ride schedule, or visit [www.romp.org](http://www.romp.org) for the most current information.



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):

Joanna Holmes/Julie Brown  
newsletter@romp.org

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

Chris Voci-Nam and Paul Nam  
408-446-3745  
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 [news mailing@romp.org](mailto:news mailing@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.

## Farewell to a Good Friend

Jim Owen, a staunch ROMP advocate, member and friend, passed away on Sunday, May 4. Riding with friends in Corralitos, Jim suffered a fatal heart attack.



**ROMP** mourns the loss of Jim Owen, who passed away in May

“Jim will be remembered fondly for his generosity, good humor, and disarming straight-from-the-hip honesty of opinion,” said ROMP President Paul Nam. As ROMP’s Trail Education Coordinator, Jim wore many hats and pitched in to help generously in any number of projects. His enthusiasm for cycling led to his part-time employment at REI’s Saratoga store, in addition to other employment.

Services were held for Jim on May 8 in Soquel Demonstration Forest (SDF). In conjunction with the Stewards of SDF, ROMP is funding a memorial park bench to sit at the overlook of this beautiful spot that Jim loved.

Jim is survived by his college-aged daughter, Jamie Owen. He leaves us with a legacy of volunteerism and civic involvement to uphold. ROMP and friends remember Jim as a steadfast companion in the meeting room and on the trails.

Happy trails, Jim. We miss you.

*For those wishing to remember Jim through pictures taken by his cycling friends, ROMP member Steve Sloan has set up a Web site:*  
[www.stevesloan.sjsu.edu/jimowen/jimowen.htm](http://www.stevesloan.sjsu.edu/jimowen/jimowen.htm).

## ROMP Jersey—Coming Soon!

Thanks to all ROMP members who took the time to vote for one of the new jersey designs. The majority of you voted for Design No. 6 (57%). Designs No. 7 and No. 4 were a distant second and third (17% and 10% respectively).

The jerseys will be available for purchase in the late summer/early fall timeframe. Stay tuned for e-mail updates to the ROMP distribution list, or watch the Web site for new ([www.romp.org](http://www.romp.org)). Advance orders will be encouraged.



# Sponsor Profile

## Walt's Cycle and Fitness

By Claire Nippress

Walt's Cycle and Fitness was founded in 1953 by a guy named—not surprisingly—Walt, and in its half century of business the shop has seen four owners. But don't expect to see a fifth one anytime soon; current owner Jim Burres seems pretty happy where he is.

Burres started in the bike business when he was nine years old. He worked for an importer of bikes, sweeping floors and dusting bikes. Later he graduated to fixing flats and assembling tricycles and pedal cars, and finally bicycles. At age 16 he enrolled in the Schwinn service school, where he honed his skills as a bike mechanic. He eventually became the Schwinn rep that called on Walt's.

One day in the late 1980s, as Jim met with Don, the last owner of Walt's, Jim noticed that Don seemed very negative about the shop. Jim advised Don to sell the place, not realizing at the time that he would become the buyer, and Don followed his advice.

Buying Walt's was a decision Jim has never regretted. "The fun thing about owning a bike store," he explains, "is that most people leave happy."

*"What makes us unique is our very large inventory of parts and accessories to fit almost every type of bike out*

Walt's sells mountain, road and comfort bikes for the cycling enthusiast, but not the professional racer. The shop also sells unicycles, tandems, fitness bikes, parts and accessories. Walt's claims to have the largest selection of tires in Northern California. It also boasts a huge selection of wheels and parts (bottom brackets, headsets, nuts and bolts).

Other stores just don't bother to carry such a variety of parts because there's no money in it." If you need a specific wheel or part, just go into Walt's and ask. Whatever it is, odds are that Walt's has it.

Walt's Cycle and Fitness  
116 Carroll St.  
Sunnyvale  
www.waltscycle.com



## ROMP Directory

**Responsible Organized Mt. Pedalers (ROMP)**  
PO Box 1723, Campbell CA 95009-1723  
www.romp.org, info@romp.org  
voicemail and fax 408-380-2271, ext. 2171

<b>President</b>	Paul Nam
408-446-3745	president@romp.org
<b>Vice President</b>	Claire Nippress
408-255-3464	vicepresident@romp.org
<b>Secretary</b>	Esther Kim
408-554-9456	secretary@romp.org
<b>Treasurer</b>	Glenn Wegner
408-257-8284	treasurer@romp.org
<b>Beginner's Clinic Leader</b>	Jim Lauth
408-739-3946	beginnersclinic@romp.org
<b>Membership Director</b>	Linda Wegner
408-257-8284	membership@romp.org
<b>Social Director</b>	VACANT
<b>Volunteer Coordinator</b>	Tyler French
408-756-7396	volunteer@romp.org
<b>NMBP Coordinator</b>	John Morgan
408-224-6879	nmbp@romp.org
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Joanna Holmes
(650) 328-0901	Julie Brown
(650) 814-8271	newsletter@romp.org
<b>Membership Database Coordinator</b>	David Volansky
415-334-7569	memberdata@romp.org
<b>Newsletter Distribution Coordinator</b>	Glenn Wegner
408-257-8284	newsmailing@romp.org
<b>Trail Education Coordinator</b>	Rich Andrews
408-257-8284	traileducation@romp.org
<b>Trailwork Coordinator</b>	Berry Stevens
650-364-6785	trailwork@romp.org
<b>Ride Coordinator</b>	Chris Voci-Nam and Paul Nam
408-446-3745	ride@romp.org
<b>Sponsor Coordinator</b>	John Morgan
<b>Webmaster</b>	VACANT
650-233-1895	webmaster@romp.org

## Other Organizations

**Bicycle Trails Council of Marin (BTCM)**  
PO Box 494, Fairfax CA 94978  
415-456-7512 [btcmarin.org](http://btcmarin.org)

**Bicycle Trails Council of the East Bay (BTCEB)**  
PO Box 9583, Berkeley CA 94709  
415-528-BIKE [www.btceastbay.org](http://www.btceastbay.org)

**Folsom Auburn Trail Riders Action Coalition**  
916-663-4626 [www.fatrac.org](http://www.fatrac.org)

**International Mt. Biking Association (IMBA)**  
PO Box 7578, Boulder CO 80306  
303-545-9011 [www.imba.com](http://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](http://www.mboosc.org)

**Sonoma County Trails Council (SCTC)**  
[www.sonomatrails.org/sctc/](http://www.sonomatrails.org/sctc/)

**San Jose Inner City Outings (San Jose ICO)**  
[www.sierraclub.org/ico/sanjose/](http://www.sierraclub.org/ico/sanjose/)

**Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition**  
[www.svbcbikes.org/](http://www.svbcbikes.org/)

**Western Wheelers Bicycle Club**  
[www.westernwheelers.org](http://www.westernwheelers.org)

**Women's Mt. Biking and Tea Soc. (WoMBATS)**  
[www.wombats.org](http://www.wombats.org)

# This Summer, Don't Let the Dust Settle

By Paul Nam



**Welcome summer! It's peak riding season, and there's much activity afoot in the ROMP domain.**

**Coe Dams**—Your ROMP prez was unrecognizable on the cover of the weekly South Bay newspaper *Metro* (May 15), with a photo of his back (showing the old Voodoo Bicycles skull logo jersey). The shot, taken in Henry Coe State Park by a *Metro* photographer while we were recording the IMBA Epic course markings, highlighted a story on possible dams along the park's Pacheco

**BACK IN ACTION**—ROMP Prez Paul Nam graced the cover of *Metro* in May during the peak of the Coe dam controversy.

Creek. In the same week that story broke, the Santa Clara Valley Water District announced a decision to rescind any plans to build dams that would affect Coe. This is good news! It had become obvious to all involved that a serious proposal to build any dams would meet with fierce opposition from environmental and recreation groups like our own. ROMP played big a role in opposing the dams.

**Coyote Harvey Bear/Palaso**—West of Coe are two future gems of mountain bike terrain: the Palaso Ridge OSA Preserve and the Coyote Harvey Bear County Park. ROMP must maintain its vigilance and involvement in these developing areas to ensure future mountain bike access. June 19th marked the Environmental Impact Review (EIR) Master Plan public hearing for Coyote Harvey Bear. These large spaces connect to Henry Coe State Park and will ultimately create a huge combined trail system. Toward this end, I've been liaising with park rangers and volunteers and trying to get mountain bikers activated. Our ROMP Coe Epic of June 7–8 this year involved brushing trails in Coe; this and other such efforts connect us in a positive way with the land. In the same vein, ROMP should adopt a trail in Coyote Harvey Bear as it comes on line.

**Adopt-a-Trail**—Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation has started an Adopt-a-Trail program. I met with Ranger Greg Bringelson, who's heading this project, to discuss how ROMP can be involved. Our involvement in county parks will improve trails and set a good example. Any trails we adopt will be posted with a sign recognizing our club. ROMP will adopt the Stevens Canyon Trail single track, a key artery in the Stevens Canyon/

Saratoga Gap system. We'll select more trails to adopt in the future.

**Regional Trails**—The Silicon Valley-to-the-Sea trail concept is well out in the open now. Recent and future annexations by the MROSD and others between New Almaden and Nisene Marks are nearing the acquisition of a complete trail corridor, a long-term goal. Additionally, ongoing acquisitions along Stevens Canyon and adjacent to Skyline Preserve are making a trail corridor from Cupertino to Portola Redwoods State Park, Pescadero, and Memorial Parks possible.

Such wide-ranging trail systems are beautiful to contemplate, but we must do more than that to make them real. Bike trail connections among Coyote Harvey Bear Park, the Bay Trail, the Bay Area Ridge Trail (BART), and the Stevens Creek Trail would create an enormously significant regional trail system. In the more near-term, Sanborn-Skyline Park's Skyline Trail is slated for annex into the multi-use BART.

**Coastal Annexation**—The MROSD plans to expand its duties to include San Mateo County to the coast. In the most current report on the annexation, bicycling is listed as a legitimate preserve activity. But just hoping they let us ride in future preserves won't cut it—we have to be involved.

**State Parks**—As our state government faces tough economic times, so does our priceless state park system. All districts are being reapportioned to cut down on staff. One proposal suggests that lesser-used parks could be shut down to save funds. Our state parks urgently need groups like ours to support them. If we want better trails, it's up to us to build and maintain them through partnership with our parks.

**Fort Ord**—Construction of illegal trails has been taking place of late in the Fort Ord public lands, home of the Sea Otter Classic. Signed trails on Fort Ord, which is BLM property, are open to mountain biking and provide quite a few miles within the 7000 currently open acres. In the next few years, another 8000 acres will be opened (pending the removal of unexploded ordnance).

A group called BETA (the Bicycle/Equestrian Trails Assistance group) acts as the eyes and ears for the BLM by providing volunteer patrols. Formed in 1996 with assistance from the BLM and NORBA, BETA is an organization of mountain bikers, hikers, and equestrians that provides maps for visitors, as well as basic first aid and CPR. BETA patrollers carry radios on the BLM frequency. Working closely with the BLM, they're concerned about this illegal trail construction, because it jeopardizes access for all users.

**Coe IMBA Epic**—After so much planning and cooperation, it was a disappointment to have the Coe Epic rained out this spring. Happily, we've rescheduled the event for September 20-21. We may be able to conduct the epic exactly as we originally planned, utilizing the Dowdy Ranch as a base. We were expecting over 100 riders at the event, the largest number of registrants ever for an IMBA epic. Plan now to be there for the fun in September and help make this event a success.

**Pumpkin Ride & Halloween Bike Swap**—Farther out on the horizon is the formation of a tangential bike swap hosted by our sponsor Trail Head Cyclery. This event will be similar to Cupertino Bike Shop's popular swap meet, with the addition of Halloween accoutrements. ROMP will aid in running the event, hopefully earning some donations. As with the Cupertino event, plan for killer gear deals and the opportunity to unburden your garage. We may use this event to award prizes to the winners in our traditional Pumpkin Ride happening a few weeks earlier. In this ride, cyclists start at Purissima Open Space on Skyline Boulevard, ride to Half Moon Bay, select pumpkins, and then ride them back up Higgin-Purissima Road and Purissima Creek Trail. This year I'd like to see a trailer class haul up a new record. ROMP could donate pumpkins to schools, and Pumpkin Riders could get sponsors to raise funds for needy children.

**BOB Trailers**—Anticipating the IMBA epic this past spring, ROMP acquired two IBEX BOB trailers in a special deal from Trail Head Cyclery. These trailers will continually come in handy for the Adopt-a-Trail program and other trailwork projects. But when they're not in use, they're available for ROMP members to borrow. If you're interested, contact me or ROMP Treasurer Glenn Wegner.

**Non-Native Plants**—Another serious issue for mountain bikers is invasive plant abatement. We're learning that BOB trailers are great for getting trailworkers' tools out to maintain remote single-track locations. Similarly, we could tackle non-native plant invasions using our bikes with trailers hauling tools. All mountain bike advocacy

plant abatement. Did you know that weeds are spreading at a rate of approximately 4600 acres a day on government lands alone? We're about to witness another season of yellow star thistle and other thorny insidious weeds. What better way for mountain bikers to serve our parks, be partners in conservation, and get involved in ways that encourage bike access, than to maintain trails and control invasive plant species?

**Free-Riding Revisited**—Several people reacted strongly to the article I wrote on free riding in the last issue of the *Mountain Cyclist*. A difficulty stems from the terms *free ride* and *free riding*, because there is no generally understood or accepted definition for them. Since writing that column I've learned that what I *thought* was "free riding" (descending slopes in excess of a 25% gradient on bicycles) is actually a subcategory of free riding. The term is very loose, and could be applied to any kind of riding outside of racing. I support this broader interpretation of the word as it helps dispel negative connotations towards mountain biking in general. Still, I stand by the essence of my polemic, which is that off-trail riding is a bad practice.

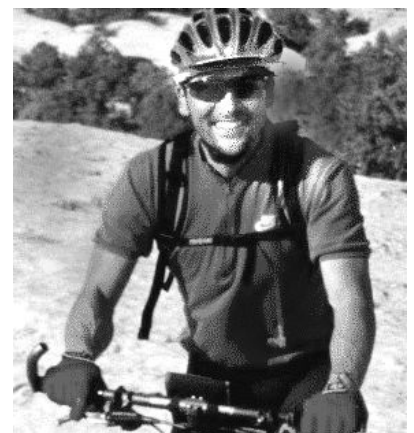
Trials riding, exemplified by riders like Hans Rey, Ot Pi, and Jeff Lenosky, is riding from A to B, over obstacles, plain and simple. People who would like to free-ride the steeps, but have no appropriate venues, could practice trials for challenge and exhilaration. Admittedly this suggestion might be like asking a bridge-dropping bungee jumper to take up the yo-yo, but the law is the law.

Worth noting: Thanks to the influence of ROMP member Darius Contractor and others, a BMX park is included in the Coyote Harvey Bear general plan. This area could be a venue for future events, such as observed trials, to celebrate the park and cycling.

Thanks for reading—now get out and ride and enjoy the work we've done. Please help ROMP continue to improve the local riding scene by getting involved. Pass this newsletter to your non-ROMP friends when you're done with it. This is your club. If there's something we're not doing right, let us know—or better yet, show us how by doing it. Have a great summer!

*What better way for mountain bikers to serve our parks, be partners in conservation, and get involved in ways that encourage bike access, than to maintain trails and control invasive plant species?*

Paul Nam,  
President, ROMP



# Power in Numbers

## How Local Data Points Can Lead to Better Trails Access

By Scott Schlachter

Ever wonder how many mountain bikers there are here in the southern Bay Area? What percentage of our local population desires to use our local parks for riding, or even hiking or horseback riding? How about what percentages of the local parks allow bike access, as compared to other uses? While many of these questions still remain unanswered and would require a formal statistical survey to provide data, some interesting local data points actually do exist—if you take the time to dig around and look.

And these things are worth looking for. Statistical information such as answers to the aforementioned questions can be used as a pivotal tool to help us when we engage in dialogue with our local land managers about mountain bike access issues. The ability to speak at a park meeting, and to demonstrate to the land management staff or commission that mountain cyclists make up a significant percentage of overall park or trail-system users, can carry a powerful message.

Recently the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation (SCCP) department began the process of developing its first-ever strategic plan to aid in future park development and management. The current draft for this plan is about to be finalized and is available for download and review at the department's Web site<sup>1</sup>.

In that report are some very interesting pieces of information. For example, based on a telephone survey conducted in May 2001, the third most desired recreational activity of the county's park system is biking, with 19% of the population choosing it as a desired activity of the park system. In contrast, hiking made up 17% (although walking/running was by far the largest at 58%). Only 1% of the population chose horseback riding.

Dig a little deeper into SCCC's Web site and you can actually tally the number of miles of offroad trails open to bicycling, hiking, and equestrian use in the parks that have them<sup>2</sup>. It turns out that about 75% of the county parks' non-paved trails are open to equestrians, while offroad bicycles are limited to about 31% of them. Indeed, the numbers seem highly disproportionate to what county residents have indicated they want from their park system.

The good news is that a few ROMPers who have actively attended strategic plan development meetings have been bringing this kind of stuff to light. Even better news is that the SCCC staff and commission genuinely appear to be listening and responding to our concerns. And the SCCC staff

*Continued on next page*

## 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

**Acterra (Arastradero Preserve)** 3921 E. Bayshore Blvd., Palo Alto, CA 94303, 650-962-9876, fax 650-962-8234; [www.arastradero.org](http://www.arastradero.org), [www.acterra.org/info@acterra.org](http://www.acterra.org/info@acterra.org) (general), [www.participation.com/arastradero](http://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, 831-338-8866

**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](http://www.coepark.parks.ca.gov) (general), [www.coepark.parks.ca.gov/biking.html](http://www.coepark.parks.ca.gov/biking.html) (biking)

**Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District** 330 Distel Circle, Los Altos 94022; 650-691-1200; [mrosd@openspace.org](mailto:mrosd@openspace.org), [www.openspace.org](http://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](mailto:mark.frederick@mail.prk.co.santa-clara.ca.us), [claraweb.co.santa-clara.ca.us/parks](http://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; 831-429-2850; David Vincent, District Superintendent

**The Trail Center** 3921 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto 94303; 650-968-7065, [www.trailcenter.org](http://www.trailcenter.org)

## Power in Numbers

Continued from previous page

was responsible for commissioning that public survey in the first place—a refreshing approach for a local park district to include in its planning process. It shows that they *really do* care how their constituents desire to use their local parks. Additionally, in direct response to our letters, e-mail, workshop feedback, and public meeting comments, the current draft of the strategic plan has an important amendment: it now specifically identifies mountain biking as a popular and growing use that will need to be addressed.

Unfortunately, as many folks know, things aren't looking as bright for us in some of the other parks districts. San Mateo County Parks, for example, has some rather disappointing numbers on its Web pages.<sup>3</sup> Only five of the 17 parks in the county even allow bicycle access, and within those that allow it, access—particularly to narrow trails—is very limited. At a time when that county is in such a budget shortfall that it may ask residents to approve a tax measure ballot to increase its funds, it might well be ignoring nearly one-fifth of its residents' recreational desires. In other words, if 19% of Santa Clara County residents chose cycling as their preferred activity, it might be fair to assume a similar number for San Mateo County.

Why hasn't San Mateo County bothered to explore what its residents want from their parks system? Excellent question. And now is definitely a good time to remind them of that and to tell them what you want from them. The Committee for Green Foothills has prepared an action alert on its Web site; check it out if you'd like to learn about San Mateo County's budget crunch.<sup>4</sup>

What about our local state parks and forests, Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD), Bay Area Ridge Trail, or even individual city parks such as Water Dog in Belmont? There's good information out there if you take the time to look. Sometimes you have to be resourceful—the answer won't always be on a Web page. You may need to pick up the phone. For example, in researching this article, your author made a couple of quick phone calls to MROSD (thanks to John Escobar and Kristi Webb), who shared their running tallies of individual parks visitor census and trail use counts. They made sure to point out that it may not be valid statistical survey information with proper sample sizes, etc., but they've got some interesting data points, nonetheless. Consider the following:

**The average trail counts** of hikers, bikes, and horses in El Corte de Madera (ECdM) between '95 and '97 is 21%, 79%, and 0%, respectively.

**For Fremont Older in '95**, those counts amounted to 31%, 51%, and 18%. Dig around in the MROSD board minutes on their Web pages, and you can find their annual reports on visitor violations—including bicycle violations; they've kept a running tally since 1991.<sup>5</sup>

*“The numbers seem highly disproportionate to what county residents have indicated they want from their park system.”*

Again, all of these things can be very powerful pieces of information to quote if you're trying to make a specific point with a land manager in a meeting or in a letter. However, sometimes the information just isn't there. There has been some discussion on the ROMP board concerning the use of the club's funding to commission a formal survey. This market research would target specific data points that we know could aid in our dialogues with land managers. How many people in the greater Bay Area mountain bike? How far do we drive each week on average to get to spots to ride?

How many of us are happy with our city, county, or state park access? What percentage of mountain cyclists also enjoy hiking or horseback riding? How often did San Mateo County mountain cyclists even bother going to a San Mateo County park last year, and for those who didn't, how far do they drive, on average, to reach their favorite trails?

Until we make the decision to invest in some potentially costly research, we can only guess at the data that may be out there, waiting to make our case for us. In the mean time though, remember that there's a lot of powerful information already available to us, if we just take the time to look for it.

### Footnotes (Related Links)

1. [www.parkhere.org/scc/assets/docs/273402SCCSP%205-29 03.pdf](http://www.parkhere.org/scc/assets/docs/273402SCCSP%205-29%2003.pdf)
2. [www.parkhere.org/channel/0,4770.chid%253D163%252sid%253D12761.00.html](http://www.parkhere.org/channel/0,4770.chid%253D163%252sid%253D12761.00.html)
3. [www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/smc/department/home/0.2242.555668710575168.00.html](http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/smc/department/home/0.2242.555668710575168.00.html)
4. [www.greenfoothills.org/action/05-2003SMCParks.html](http://www.greenfoothills.org/action/05-2003SMCParks.html)
5. [www.openspace.org/agendas00/agn02-26-03.html](http://www.openspace.org/agendas00/agn02-26-03.html)

# July and August Rides

Check Website for Updates!

*Sunday, July 6*

## **B/EASY/INT/11/1500 – 1st Sunday Saratoga Gap**

Meet at 10:00 AM at Grizzly Flat on Skyline Blvd. (between Junction 9 and Page Mill Rd.). This is a social ride so there are plenty of breaks and we wait for everyone. Bring helmet, water and power bars. After ride, we will go for lunch in Saratoga. For further information contact Claire or Dave at 408-255-3478 or **crash-call@scoreone.com** or **tripman@scoreone.com**

*Thursday, July 10*

## **Whine and Dine Ride**

Meet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos, across the street from the Los Gatos Library. This is a social MTB ride that will ride various trails radiating out of this area. Steve Sloan 448-3408 (home) s\_sloan@mac.com, Tyler French 756-7396 (work) tyler.j.french@lmco.com

*Sunday, July 13*

## **B/EASY/INT/11/1500 – 2nd Sunday Saratoga Gap**

Meet at 10:00 AM at Grizzly Flat on Skyline Blvd. (between Junction 9 and Page Mill Rd.). This is a social ride so there are plenty of breaks and we wait for everyone. Bring helmet, water and power bars. After ride, we will go for lunch in Saratoga. For further information contact Claire or Dave at 408-255-3478 or **crash-call@scoreone.com** or **tripman@scoreone.com**

*Tuesday, July 15*

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

This all-legal, mostly offroad night-ride, 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**.

*Wednesday July 16*

## **C/INT/15/2000 Fremont Older After Work**

Join Glenn & Linda for another exciting and fun packed summer of evening rides! Yes, we've changed to Wednesday evenings after about 6 years of Tuesdays. Be ready to ride at 6PM. Meet at the main Stevens Creek Co. Park pkg lot on Stevens Canyon Rd about 1 mile south of Stevens Creek Blvd and about 2 miles south of I280 (Foothill exit). Bring \$\$ for optional post-ride food. Rain cancels. 408-257-8284 if you need more info.

*Thursday, July 24*

## **Whine and Dine Ride**

Meet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos, across the street from the Los Gatos Library. This is a social MTB ride that will ride various trails radiating out of this area. Steve Sloan 448-3408 (home) s\_sloan@mac.com Tyler French 756-7396 (work) or tyler.j.french@lmco.com

## 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 408-446-3745 or ride@romp.org by the tenth of the preceding month for newsletter listing. Visit [www.romp.org](http://www.romp.org) for detailed help on leading a ride or to submit your ride online.



# MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

## Membership Update

### Renewals

Sotos Barkas  
Alicia Borowski  
Binh Cheung  
Logan S. Deimler  
Aaron & Tara Dellolacono  
Thies  
Don Druyanoff  
John Greswold  
Aaron Grossman  
Skip & Sue Hopgood  
Robert Legallet  
Eric Linthorst  
Brian Shanahan  
Richard Treakle  
Troy Wendt

### New Members

Matt Dunstan  
Craig & Valerie Huff  
Coraline Journal  
Don Kraft  
Derek Maak  
Kent Merritt  
Amit Pandey  
Paul Quintana  
Dave Snider  
Bob & Annie Ward  
Jeff Wieland

## Rides

*Continued from page 8*

*Sunday, July 20*

**D/DIFF/15/2800 – 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 – 3rd Sunday 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, July 21*

### **B/ESY/10/1500—QUIET CYCLING**

Learn the art of blending in on your bike. With MROSD docent Patty Ciesla, you'll discover how to be the observer, and not the observed, how to leave no trace and pass softly through meadows and woods. Master low-impact cycling for a noisy world. The ride will be 10 miles with 1500 feet of climbing. Prior mountain biking experience needed. Reservations required. Call 650-691-2150 by 7/19. Meet at Monte Bello parking lot on left side of Page Mill Rd., 7 miles west of 280.

*Wednesday July 23*

**C/INT/15/2000 Fremont Older After Work**  
Join Glenn & Linda for another exciting and fun packed summer of evening rides! Yes, we've changed to Wednesday evenings after about 6 years of Tuesdays. Rain cancels. 408-257-8284 if you need more info.

*Thursday, July 24*

### **Whine and Dine Ride**

Meet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos, across the street from the Los Gatos Library. This is a social MTB ride that will ride various trails radiating out of this area. Steve Sloan 448-3408 (home) s\_sloan@mac.com Tyler French 756-7396 (work) or tyler.j.french@lmco.com

### **A/ESY/8/1000 — A Little History, A Little Nature, a Little Exercise...**

Join docents Strether Smith and Patty Ciesla for a evening ride in the Fremont Older Preserve. Learn a little history (who was Fremont Older?) and view the valley from Maisie's Peak (and who was Maisie?). This will be a beginner-

intermediate ride of about 8 miles with approx. 1,000 feet of climbing. Reservations are required. Call 650-691-2150 by 7/22. Meet at the preserve parking lot on Prospect Rd. in Cupertino.

*Sunday, July 27*

### **D/INT/30/4000—There and Back Again**

Meet at Stevens Creek Dam, ready to ride, at 10 am. This will be a longish ride exploring the parks and open spaces concentrated around the intersection of Page Mill Rd. and Rt. 35. The goal is to provide a longer ride exploring the trails little used by ROMP rides on days when no ROMP alternative is planned. We will ride Table Mountain/Charcoal Rd. and head for Russian Ridge to explore some trails there and back again. Contact Fred Stanke at 408-343-0349 or 408-410-6938, bikerfred@sbcglobal.net.

*Wednesday, July 30*

### **C/INT/15/2000 Fremont Older After Work**

Join Glenn & Linda for another exciting and fun packed summer of evening rides! Yes, we've changed to Wednesday evenings after about 6 years of Tuesdays. Be ready to ride at 6PM. Rain cancels. 408-257-8284 if you need more info.

*Thursday, July 31*

### **Whine and Dine Ride**

Meet at Summit Bikes on Main Street in Los Gatos, across the street from the Los Gatos Library. This is a social MTB ride that will ride various trails radiating out of this area. Steve Sloan 448-3408 (home) s\_sloan@mac.com Tyler French 756-7396 (work) or tyler.j.french@lmco.com

## AUGUST

All regularly scheduled rides in July continue through August. These include regular ROMP rides every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

**See [www.romp.org](http://www.romp.org) for updates on special rides.**

## 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](http://www.romp.org/news)). Simply send an email to memberdata@romp.org with "No paper, please" in the subject and your name and preferred email address in the body.

# Lost in Time and Space

By Igor Kotterkrank



We were lost in cave. It was a weird journey of denial (“*We’re not lost!*”) over a bedrock of sheer panic, because those puny headlamp batteries don’t last forever. We were in a vertical shaft that ran through a Swiss cheese rock offering us a smorgasbord of choices, but only one hole led to escape. My two compadres and I were beginning to sweat.

that topographic maps lack. Deadfalls, landslides, washouts, fire damage, floods, timber harvests, sporting events, motorized vehicles, maintenance access, hunting seasons, local activities, reroutes, cattle grazing, and the like, all conspire to alter the face of the landscape from what guidebooks and maps originally drew from.

For this reason it’s always worth the time to stop and check in with a local bike shop, ranger station, resort staff, and bartenders to check on the latest conditions before heading into the hinterlands. Many are those whose misfortunes could have been eliminated by a simple question posed to a local. In addition to asking about trail conditions, inquire about trailhead conditions and choices. Details like vandalism, more scenic or pleasant trail access, and wildlife information can be gleaned from local folks. But be selective about accepting roadside wisdom—bad advice can be as costly as no advice.

Whether you took a wrong turn in a cave or the single track you were following just became a non-track, you’re lost when you can’t find your way out. Summer’s in full tilt, and we’re all primed to go out and explore new places. We’ll be perusing maps and guidebooks and picking our friends’ hazy recollections from their visits to these places. This is the best way to launch your big trips into the unknown. Staying found starts here in your journey’s incipient planning stages.

Remember, though, that guides and people can be misleading, especially if you’re an optimist. For example, route profiles in many guidebooks, those sawtoothed lines representing the ups and downs of a route, are simplistic cartoons of reality. Never entrust your security to such guides entirely. Some guidebooks depict vertical gain as the difference between the highest and lowest point on the route; in others, it’s a cumulative total. Furthermore, what’s on paper always looks a lot easier than it is in reality. Take into account the copyright date, too. Old guides don’t reflect recent trail system changes resulting from ordinances, trail construction, storm damage, etc.

Maps aren’t perfect, either. Carrying more than one type of map of the area you’re traveling in can save you. Together, the National Forest map and a topographic map of the area you’re exploring are better than either type alone. The big National Forest map can help you identify distant landmarks and will probably show recent data about dirt roads, and certainly some of the road numbers and place names

The trailhead is the best place to make sure we have our car keys and a plan for their safekeeping and what to do if they get lost. It happens. People get back from harrowing adventures only to find they can’t find their keys. What a drag! Hide a key somewhere or give spares to others. Hopefully you aren’t traveling alone, but in any case you should inform at least one friend or family member who’s not on the trip with you about your plans. This way, if you don’t turn up at home or give a pre-arranged phone call, folks know where to look for you.

At long last, we’re on the trail. The thrilling new sights and obstacles to ride over are out there waiting for you. The group should carry a combination of survival and navigation tools such as maps, compass, altimeter, watch (chronograph), emergency light, and water filter. Consider these items pretty essential. Some optional items gadgeteers carry are GPS units, binoculars, pencil and paper, a short roll of bright survey marking ribbon, and two-way radios. What you carry, and how much, is a matter of style. The real adventurers tend to carry less and risk more.

Inevitably what you bring along determines the kind of experience you’ll have. Strike a balance between obsessive control and wild spontaneity that works for you and your group. Agree on a methodology for keeping the group together before setting out. Stopping too often to check your position slows down the ride. On the other hand, not checking your position at regular and logical intervals increases the likelihood of becoming lost. Optimize your access to frequently used navigation aids. Use a bar-mounted map holder either

*Continued on page 12*

# Trailwork Leads to Great Rides in Soquel Demo Forest

With the onset of summer, the trailwork season has ended in the Soquel Demonstration State Forest. The Stewards of Soquel Forest (SSF) have put finishing touches on newly built meanders on the bottom of Ridge Trail, and the forest should be well prepared for trail users this summer. Cyclists will find a few new turns on the trails, further evolution of trailside technical features, and fun for riders of all abilities.

The season started in December with preventative maintenance on Ridge, Corral, Braille, Tractor, and Saw Pit. We completed installation of an extensive system of drainage features throughout the trail network. Most are subtle out-slopes, drain dips or grade reversals that will direct water off the trails frequently to divert it into silt traps far from the creeks. Keeping the trails dry and firm during the winter not only appeals to trail users, but it also increases their durability and minimizes potential siltation. Water quality in the Soquel Creek is very important to the California Department of Forestry (CDF), the forest manager, which strives to protect the threatened steelhead trout that are trying to survive in the pools and gravel beds.

We had eight major workdays this season. Our volunteers donated nearly 500 hours of hard work this season, which concluded in mid-June with a major project to lengthen the Ridge Trail between the picnic table and the top of Saw Pit. There were several fall-line sections of Ridge that were no longer "single track," having become increasingly rutted and wide as riders sought traction on the edges of the trail. While these steep sections provided a welcome challenge for some riders, forest staff and rescue teams had a hard time passing through these areas to patrol with ATVs or carry out injured visitors on stretchers. User safety on the steep sections in the dry autumn months was questionable, and prospects for their long-term durability were grim.

These sluice-like sections were routed around by zigzagging across the ridge several times with newly constructed trail, never getting very far from the original alignment, but allowing enough room for effective drainage features and retaining the difficult but durable rock gardens. Another benefit of the reroute comes from the series of turns that make an enjoyable, swoopy ride. These turns also have the effect of naturally slowing riders down, which will reduce braking damage to the trails and increase rider safety. Such qualities will help ensure long-term cyclist access to these trails.

By slowing riders down, we were able to put into play a variety of trailside technical features. This method of creating alternate tracks, or "braids," over nearby forest debris increases the challenge level of the trail. It was authorized by CDF during the reconstruction of the Braille Trail and continues now on Ridge and Saw Pit trails. Note that I am not referring to ladders and elevated trails such as those in Vancouver's playgrounds. No imported lumber or metal fasteners are used in Soquel Forest. Our technical features have a more natural, organic look. A log parallel to the trail that serves as a bridge here, a subtly ramped pile of logs there, and the result is a trail that offers differing degrees of challenge for the many skill levels of the riders rolling through. These features come and go as the forest naturally ages; thus they offer the potential for a different ride each time and a changing look to the trails each year.

## THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN KICKSTAND

*Continued on next page*



## Trailwork in Soquel Demo

*Continued from previous page*

This sort of trail design is unique. It comes as the result of a good relationship between the public agency that manages the forest and the volunteer group that maintains the trails, as well as the flexibility that comes from having trails that are entirely within a working forest where timber harvests are part of the plan.

Trailwork reports and photos have been posted at [www.trailworkers.com](http://www.trailworkers.com), but there's no substitute for seeing the trails from the saddle of your bike. ROMP hosts groups rides in the Demo all summer. For details, watch the ROMP email distribution list for upcoming rides.

## Lost in Time and Space

*Continued from page 10*

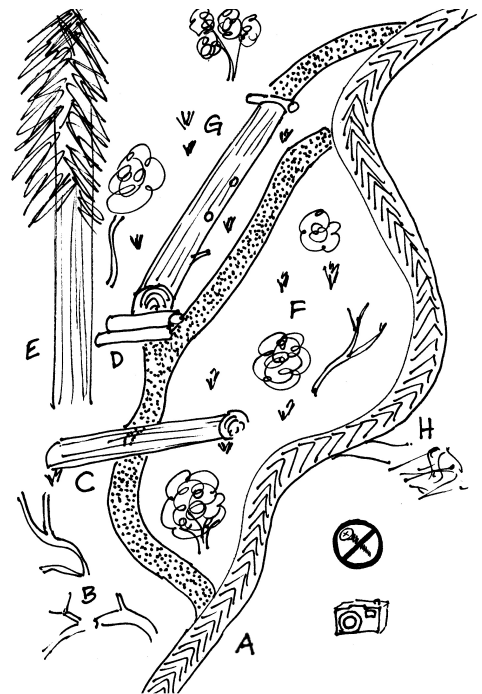
on your handlebars or the back of your pack to make it convenient to consult the map. And carry a backup copy.

In the planning, make some goals. If you're riding a loop, decide on a "point of no return", the point at which it's shorter to finish the loop rather than double back or bail out. Consider out-and-back routes as a serious option in complex terrain. Keep track of time. Know what time the sun sets and when you started. If you must depend on gadgets, make sure you have enough spare batteries.

We found the right hole out of the cave in 45 angst-filled minutes because we had left a paper sign: "Exit" at the right hole. It was a sign we thought we wouldn't need, but it saved our sorry asses.

## Technical Feature Guidelines in Soquel Forest

	<b>A</b> Main trail is most obvious line, is cleared for ATV and equestrians.
	<b>B</b> Riders must deliberately turn off the main trail to access technical features.
	<b>C</b> A test feature hinders access to most challenging sections; bypass available.
	<b>D</b> Only locally found materials are used and design must be stable without nails, screws or lumber
	<b>E</b> Live trees are protected from damage.
	<b>F</b> Area between braid and main trail is open to maintain visibility for patrol.
	<b>G</b> Landing/falling and run -out zones are free from hazards.
	<b>H</b> Silt traps and good trail design prevent sediment delivery to the creeks. Unauthorized features that are deemed inappropriate are removed. Unauthorized trails are closed and monitored by CDF's game cameras.



# Swap Meet Redux—A Great Event, and Another in the Works

By Claire Nippress

April 27, 2003—Groggy volunteers began arriving at Cupertino Bike Shop by 7:30 a.m. for ROMP's annual Swap Meet. We appeased them for their efforts with coffee and doughnuts. Although the meet wasn't due start until ten, we already had vendors lining up as our volunteers were arriving. The unloading of all the vendors' bicycles, parts and accessories went fairly smoothly, in spite of having to transport all items from the parking lot in front of the shop to the parking lot in the rear. Very quickly, the Cupertino Bike Shop parking lot became a marketplace packed with untold treasures hidden amongst a jumble of goods.

Setting up the ROMP booth was a feat in itself. We had so many donations that we were piling parts and equipment on top of each other. Somehow we managed to squeeze everything (well, nearly) under the one canopy. (Okay, so we *did* obstruct the throughway a little bit, but all in the name of a good cause.)

Around 9 a.m., the bargain hunters began to line up. The line grew until it stretched around to the front of the bike shop. But thanks to John Morgan, who had the great idea of collecting money and stamping people's hands as they waited in line, the opening of the Swap Meet went reasonably smoothly.

On the whole, the event was a great success. I bought some biking shoes and my husband bought (another) bike. Jim Sullivan seemed to have started a pump collection, and various other ROMPers were seen carting out an assortment of bikes, parts, and equipment.

A big thank-you to Linda Kahn for organizing the ROMP stand and selling food and drinks to hungry and thirsty attendees. Thanks also go to everyone who helped make this year's Swap Meet such a success. We had the largest turnout of volunteers ever and we raised over \$3000 for the ROMP coffers. This money will be used to further the ROMP cause and support local efforts related to mountain biking.

If you missed the Swap Meet in spring, stay tuned: ROMP and Trail Head Cyclery are currently planning a similar event for October. (For details, see Paul Nam's article on page 4 of this newsletter.)



**SWAP MEET 'N GREET**—VP Claire Nippress (center) and other volunteers held the ROMP booth together during the annual bicycle bargain-fest in April.

## Lead a ROMP Ride

Why not volunteer to lead a ROMP ride? 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 e-mail list ([romp@topica.com](mailto:romp@topica.com)) and the Web site ([romp.org](http://romp.org)). To post a ride on the Web, click on "Schedule a ride." Alternatively, you can phone the ride coordinator (see directory) or forward it to [ride@topica.com](mailto:ride@topica.com).

*Mark Your Calendars...*

## **ROMP Party at Walt's**

**Walt's will be hosting a wine-and-cheese party for ROMP members and their guests.**

**(Cookies and coffee will be provided for those who don't drink alcohol.)**

**When?**

Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
7pm to 10pm.

**Where?**

Walt's Cycle and Fitness  
116 Carroll Street  
Sunnyvale  
CA 94086  
Tel: 408 736-2630

Come spend a fun evening with other folks who love riding and talking about bikes, bike parts and accessories. See a bike you like? Great! For that night only, Walt's will sell it to you at 10% off; plus, get a 20% discount off everything else (parts, accessories, tires, etc.).

***Don't miss the fun!***



# Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers

## 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 to help these changes come about.

**Fill in all information whether you are a new or renewing member. Failure to include all information will delay your membership. Please print legibly and fill out every line.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Additional names (family membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (      ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Type

New	Renewal	Change of address (allow 30 days)
Individual (\$20.00)	Family (\$25.00)	Student (\$10.00)
Donation (\$ _____)		
Send newsletter via postal service	Just send me an email when the news is online	

### Club Directory — please list my

Name	Address	Phone	Email
Do not list me in the directory			

### I'd like to help with

Education	Trail work	Fundraising	Letter writing
Event coordination	Newsletter articles	Ride leadership	Social events

### Release of Liability Agreement

Upon acceptance of my membership in Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers (ROMP), and while participating in any group event sanctioned, sponsored or organized by ROMP, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, assigns, successors and administrators, release, waive and discharge any and all claims for liability or damages resulting from death, personal injury or damage to any property which may occur, or which may later become accountable to me as a result, directly or indirectly of my participation in ROMP events (group rides). I fully understand this release is intended to unconditionally release, in advance, ROMP from any and all liability pursuant to or arising from my participation in club event, **EVEN WHEN SUCH LIABILITY ARISES OUT OF NEGLIGENCE OR CARELESSNESS ON THE PART OF ROMP, its members, officers, and representatives.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature (if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form with check payable to:  
ROMP – Attention: Membership, PO Box 1723, Campbell CA 95009-1723

**Did you complete all information, sign your name, and enclose your check?  
Thank you, and welcome to ROMP!**

## New ROMP T-Shirts For Sale!

The new T-Shirts have white lettering on forest (dark green) or olive (light green), and are available in various sizes immediately.

These attractive shirts have the ROMP logo on the front, and "Share The Trails" in large print on the back. "www.romp.org" is on the left sleeve.

T-shirts: \$10 + \$2 shipping

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

To order, fill out the following:  
(Sorry, only size XL available)

Size XL	Color (olive or forest)	Qty.	Subtotal
---------	-------------------------	------	----------

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Order total \$10 ea.: \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping \$2 ea.: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Send this form with check payable to:**

ROMP – Attention: T-shirts  
PO Box 1723  
Campbell CA 95009-1723





**Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers**  
 PO Box 1723  
 Campbell CA 95009-1723

PRESORTED STANDARD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 SAN JOSE CA  
 PERMIT NO. 1371

**Inside this issue:**

ROMP Board Positions Open	1
Farewell to a Good Friend	2
ROMP Jerseys	2
Sponsor Profile	3
President's Editorial	4
Power in Numbers	6
Ride Schedule	8-9
Igor Kotterkrank	10
Trailwork in Soquel	11
Swap Meet Redux	13
ROMP Party at Walt's	14
T-Shirt Order Form	15



Crossroads Bicycles



Willow Glen Bicycles



**The Bicycle Outfitter** 963 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos 650-948-8092 [www.bicycleoutfitter.com](http://www.bicycleoutfitter.com)

**Broken Spoke** 782 Laurel Street, San Carlos 650-594-9210 [www.brokenspoke.com](http://www.brokenspoke.com)

**Calmar Cycles** 2236 El Camino Real, Santa Clara 408-249-6907 [www.calmarcycles.com](http://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](http://www.chainreaction.com)

**Cupertino Bike Shop** 10493 S. De Anza Blvd, Cupertino 408-255-2217 [www.cupertinobike.com](http://www.cupertinobike.com)

**Palo Alto Bicycles** 170 University Ave. Palo Alto 650-328-7411 [www.paloaltobicycles.com](http://www.paloaltobicycles.com)

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

**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

**Trail Head Cyclery** 14450 Union Ave, San Jose 408-369-9666 [www.trailheadonline.com](http://www.trailheadonline.com)

**Calabazas Cyclery** 6140 Bollinger Rd., San Jose 408-366-2453 [www.calabazas.com](http://www.calabazas.com)

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

**Light&Motion**, 300 Cannery Row, Monterey, 831.645-1538 [www.bikelights.com](http://www.bikelights.com)