



# MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

LEADING THE PARITION OF MOUNTAIN CYCLISTS IN THE TRAIL COMMUNITY

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2004

## SF Mountain Biking Advocacy

*By Aaron DelloIacono Thies*

If you live in San Francisco, or visit regularly, you're probably aware that there are many great trails throughout the western half of the city. Golden Gate Park, the Presidio, Land's End, and other local parks offer excellent opportunities for mountain biking. What you might not know, however, is that riding many of these trails is illegal.

Recently, SFMTB, a loose-knit group of volunteers, came together to coordinate input from local mountain bikers, and to help gain better legal mountain bike access to trails in San Francisco.

Originally formed in response to the new Presidio Trails and Bikeways Master Plan (created in early 2003), SFMTB continues to work on San Francisco specific mountain bike issues. ROMP has offered support of their efforts.

SFMTB is not an official club or organization. Anyone can get involved. This grassroots advocacy group is working to preserve and promote responsible mountain biking in San Francisco through advocacy, trail stewardship and community outreach.



Little dirt in Golden Gate Park is legal to ride

Within the city limits of San Francisco, there are many green-spaces, parks and unpaved trails that are loved by many for the mountain biking, hiking and other recreational opportunities that they provide. These are the places close to our homes where we exercise, relax, talk, think and temporarily escape the city's howl. These trails offer a large number of people the opportunity to recreate without requiring a trip in the car.

Many San Francisco open spaces and trails can be logically linked into a series of inter-connected multi-use trail loops that encompass most of the city. At present there are at least nine separate trail loops that can be combined. A small number of unplanned and relatively overlooked "connecting greenways" provide off-pavement travel between these loops.

This San Francisco "Multi-Use Non-Paved Trail Network" exists now. It is

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Skeggs Changes

*By Eric Lafferty*

El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve (a.k.a. Skeggs Point) is about to undergo major changes. On November 19th a new Watershed Protection Program outlining changes to the park was announced.

As part of the three-year \$1-million plan, the Midpenninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) will be re-aligning and improving trails, upgrading storm drainage facilities, instituting new maintenance techniques, and developing an environmental education and outreach program, pending approval from the full MROSD Board of Directors.

Undoubtedly trail-users will be most concerned with the proposed trail realignments and improvements. Portions of Giant Salamander, North and South Leaf, Virginia Mill, Cross-over, Fir, and Blue Blossom Trails are all slated for change.

The Watershed Protection Program is needed to better protect wildlife that is located downstream from El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space (ECdM). This plan is part of the on-going balance between environmental and recreational interests.

*(Continued on page 10)*

# The Price of Access

by Paul Nam, ROMP President

As we enter 2004, ROMP's mountain bike access program is undergoing a renaissance. In Santa Clara, San Mateo and San Francisco Counties, many exciting new opportunities and serious challenges line the trail ahead.

Fortunately, there are killer new technologies to aid our metaphorical "trail-access bike." We power along without the need for suspension lockout thanks to our "Stable Platform Values" - access for all trail-users on trails designed to resist erosion, control speed, provide challenge, and allow us to appreciate nature.

The story of trails is the path of history. Ever since tree-folk took to the ground, and Adam and Eve left the Garden of Eden, trails have been the means to connect people and places. Trail work, as a result, has been humanity's chore since the beginning of time.

Toll roads developed to provide a means to maintain passage through difficult terrain. Paying or bartering granted a traveler the right to passage.

The Romans were prodigious road builders. Wherever they went, their armies built roads. Roads were strategic element of conquest, government, commerce and travel. The Roman Empire granted its citizens passage along these roads in exchange for taxes. This established the fundamental financial model for the highways and trails we use today: taxes.

All travelers pay for "right-of-way". This right has never come without cost. On public lands, right-of-way comes through negotiation, finance, planning, litigation, construction and maintenance. Access has its costs.

The logging roads and skid trails of ECdM have long been a favorite Bay Area mountain biking destination. Unfortunately portions of the trail network and several stream crossings have been identified as sources for excessive silt loads that are compromising wildlife habitat

downstream. ECdM land is at the head of the watershed for San Gregorio Creek, home to both Steelhead and Coho Salmon. The habitat of these fish is being destroyed, and in order for these fish to survive it needs to be restored.

Access requires sharing, including sharing with wildlife. Sharing pays huge dividends when we respect each other.

The Watershed Protection Program addresses these environmental concerns, but not without exacting a high cost from taxpayers, and requiring a large volunteer effort.

Another local park where ROMP will step up its support of trail projects in the coming year is Henry Coe State Park. Mountain biking potential in this 90,000-acre park, site of a 2003 IMBA Epic, is great. The park provides many in the cycling community with the satisfaction of long epic rides.

Currently, the steep terrain and extensive network of ranch roads and trails within Coe needs care, repair and in some cases realignment. Building new trails and reviving sections that have fallen into disrepair is greatly needed.

As a member of the Coe Trails Advisory Council, I work directly with State Park staff on trail projects. ROMP will step its support of this incredible park in 04' beginning with visits from the IMBA Trail Care Crews on Feb 14-15. Please join us in this effort for training (especially useful in connection with ECdM's plans).

In 2003 the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department finalized its Strategic Plan. ROMP advocates participated in this process. We fought for the inclusion of "mountain biking" as a legitimate use in the parks, and we won. We hung in throughout the lengthy process of shaping this document, making sure that the staff and commission knew that bicycles belong.



In the new plan for the soon-to-be-opened Coyote Lake Harvey Bear County Park (located in Morgan Hill), 19 miles of trails will be open to cyclists. This is in great part a result of work performed by ROMP advocates in 2002.

Big Basin State Park's Master Plan is currently being rewritten. In August 2003, during a period of public comment, it was determined that increased mountain bike access was needed. It was a great pleasure to see this recognized in September's planning process newsletter. Mountain bikers are now recognized as major stakeholder in the planning process of this park. In large part to ROMP volunteers, we succeeded in making it known that bikers want access, and that regional trail connections are strategic necessities in the final plan.

In each of these projects, ROMP contributed to local mountain bike access. Active volunteers spend their time ensuring that mountain bikers are represented in local trail developments. Working with local land management agencies, ROMP volunteers ensure that tax dollars spent on parks and open space goes toward places open to cyclists. Active volunteers ensure access for each of us.

When we ride trails and dirt roads in our counties we ride on a network of compromise. We use these trails to appreciate nature, and at the same time we share these parks with nature. It's only natural to love them; but let's not smother them.

We pay for our right-of-way. Access is not free. Trails need to serve the purposes of the people who pay for and use them. Simultaneously they must adhere to our fiscal and environmental responsibilities. ROMP will continue working towards these goals.

### Other Cycling Organizations

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

**Bicycle Trails Council of Marin (BTCM)**  
PO Box 494, Fairfax CA 94978  
415-456-7512      www.btcmarin.org

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

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

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

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

**Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC)**  
president@mboosc.org      www.mboosc.org

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

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

**Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition**  
www.svbcbikes.org/

**Western Wheelers Bicycle Club**  
www.westernwheelers.org

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



## ROMP At The Races

*By Max Zinsman*

ROMP is organizing a race team to attract attention to the club, it's advocacy work, and fun events. The 2004 race season will be a trial period for the team.

The race team will represent ROMP at race events involving mountain bike cross-country, mountain bike downhill, cyclocross, and 24-hour racing. Participation is voluntary.

The team is open to all ROMP members over the age of 18, and to riders of all skill levels. All race team members need to have completed eight hours of volunteer work (including trail work, or other ROMP related activities), be an ambassador of good bicycling citizenship, participate in at least one race in 2004, and own (or borrow) a ROMP jersey.

If you want to re-enter the racing fray, or are looking to do your first race, sign up for the team! Racing can be enjoyable, rewarding, and exciting, especially when enjoyed with others who have similar interests. Tentatively, the "kick off" race will be on February, 15, 2004 in Cool, CA. [auburnbikeworks.com/racing.htm](http://auburnbikeworks.com/racing.htm).

### 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):

◇ Eric Lafferty / Josh Moore  
[newsletter@romp.org](mailto:newsletter@romp.org)

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

◇ Julie Brown (650) 814 8271 [ride@romp.org](mailto:ride@romp.org)

For more details, see the ROMP website under Race Team. Training ride schedules will be forthcoming. If you have any questions, contact Max Zinsman at (408) 921-3532, or [maxz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maxz@sbcglobal.net).

## Trail Closures

For any questions regarding these closures, please call (408)355-2215 unless otherwise stated.

**The Los Gatos Creek Trail** (west side trail closest to Highway 17) from Main Street in downtown LG to the dam at Lexington Reservoir is closed through February 2004. The San Jose Water Company is replacing huge water supply pipes in this area and have closed the area to all public access. The public can access Lexington County Park via the east side trail which goes through St. Joseph's Preserve. If you have any questions regarding this closure please call the Town of Los Gatos at (408)354-6809.

**Lexington Reservoir** - Limekiln Trail is closed until further notice.

**Almaden Quicksilver** - Virl Norton Trail is closed until Spring 2004 due to trail maintenance and rehabilitation. New Almaden Trail is temporarily closed between the Mine Hill and Senador Mine trails. All other trails open to foot traffic only.

**Calero** - All trails open to foot traffic only.

**Mt. Madonna** - Merry-Go-Round and Tie Camp Trails are closed to equestrians until further notice.

**Upper Stevens Creek County Park** - Due to bridge construction on Stevens Canyon Road, the section of Stevens Canyon Trail from Table Mountain Trail to Stevens Canyon Road is closed. This closure is in effect from September 2003 to January 2004. There is no access from Skyline Boulevard, Page Mill Road or upper Monte Bello Road via Canyon Trail to Stevens Creek Reservoir.



Eric Lafferty shows respect for trail closures.

# Why Seasonal Trail Closures?

*By David Sanguinetti, Area Superintendent  
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District*

The Bay Area is entering the winter rainy season, and inevitably, as in years past, some trails will be closed for their protection. As the Superintendent of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, I'd like to explain how we manage the resource and why we need to close some trails during the rainy season.

Last year the District celebrated our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In those 30 years we acquired nearly 50,000 acres spread across 26 preserves. Within this incredible expanse of land we manage several hundred miles of fire roads and single-track trails in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Our job is to effectively protect, manage, and maintain these roads and trails during the rainy season, and that is why we employ seasonal trail closures in some of the wettest spots.

The Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District does not seasonally close trails to decrease the volume of bicyclists and equestrians. We welcome cyclists and horseback riders on our lands. Rather, there are two compelling reasons that require us to close trails and roads during the wet season.

First, the District's primary responsibility is "resource protection," and that's why we work closely with the California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corps of Engineers, and the Water Quality Board to reduce the amount of sediment loading in important fisheries like the Pescadero

and San Gregorio Creeks.

Long Ridge, Skyline Ridge, Russian Ridge, La Honda Creek, El Corte de Madera, and Purisima Creek Open Space Preserves are all located either completely or partially within the drainages of these creeks. Increased sedimentation in these creeks destroys the wildlife that they support.

Second, the District has routine maintenance responsibilities that are a major portion of our workload. Maintaining the surface of our trails and roads requires many hours of Field Staff time to ensure the safety of everyone who uses our preserves. (Currently we have two Field Offices, each with approximately 20 employees, dedicated to preserve management.) To effectively utilize staff time it is important not to repeat the same work on the same trails in the same season.

The District uses "Best Management Practices" for trail maintenance, including outside

surface cross-sloping and rolling drainage structures. Bicycle and equestrian use on trails during wet weather creates cupped surfaces, and breaches drainage structures. Once this occurs, water remains on trail surfaces for longer periods of time, eroding additional surface. Eventually natural drainages are created that increase the normal level of silt load delivery into the watershed.



I wuz gonna wash your bike

## 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.

This material is carried downstream where it smothers Steelhead Trout and Coho Salmon in their spawning beds.

To avoid erosion, and to effectively manage our trails and roads, it is important for us to implement seasonal closures. Protecting these trails allows them to function appropriately in the rain.

Additionally, when the weather clears for a couple of weeks, our staff checks trail conditions and opens trails where appropriate.

To help keep our users current on trail closures, we provide up to date information via our Trail Update service: (650) 691-2150, Option 3.

I hope that my explanations help you to better understand how we manage the resource and why we need to close some trails during the rainy season. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at (650) 949-1848.

## 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, 408-429-2869; Dave Keck, 916-322-2997

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

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

**Henry W. Coe State Park** 9000 East Dunne Ave, Morgan Hill 95037. 408-779-2728  
Gavilan Sector Supervising Ranger Denise Reichenberg [dreichenberg@parks.ca.gov](mailto:dreichenberg@parks.ca.gov);  
Coe Senior Ranger Barry Breckling [barryb@coepark.org](mailto:barryb@coepark.org); [coepark.parks.ca.gov](http://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; [mrostd@openspace.org](mailto:mrostd@openspace.org), [openspace.org](http://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; 408-429-2850; David Vincent, District Superintendent

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

Interested in leading a ride?

Contact Julie Brown, (650) 814 8271 or [ride@romp.org](mailto:ride@romp.org) by the tenth of the preceding month for newsletter listing. See [www.romp.org](http://www.romp.org) for help on leading a ride or to submit your ride online.

## 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.

## ROMP Membership Update

### Renewals

Tom Austin & Family  
David Belden  
Michael Bigler  
Ryan Brecht  
Julie Brown  
Donald L. Brubaker II  
Melvin D. Chan  
Tom Collett  
Ryan Connolly  
Jeff Driskell  
Gregory D. Frank  
Richard & Toni Gooch  
Brett Hallinan  
Adrienne Harber  
John Hurwitz  
Chuck Isaacson  
Kelly Johnson  
Anne-Marie Jumeau  
Bob Kane  
John F. Mason  
Mark McConnell  
Gary Minnaert  
John & Karen Morgan & Family  
Paul Nam & Christine Voci-Nam  
H Preston & Ellen Nelson  
Claire Nippres & David Tripier  
John Novitsky & Family  
Don & Stacy Palermini  
Henry Pastorelli  
Mike & Kathy Podgorski  
Dan Powell  
Janine Ramonda  
Shaun Reid & Stacy Cohen  
David Skinner & Heidi Braverman  
Hal Stanley  
Mary Walker & Mark Interrante  
Harvey Wong  
Laurence Wong  
Ford Young & Amy Faucher  
Max Zinsman

### New Members

Daryl Brown  
Jason Buberel  
Pete Czerpak  
Christine Dieterich  
Michael Hank  
Scott Hill & Valerie Newhouse  
Patrick Murphy  
David & Amanda Templeton  
Tom Zang

# Water Dog Needs You

by *Berry Stevens*

A new season of trail work is about to begin at Water Dog Lake Park in Belmont. Volunteer are needed to help construct new trails in the park.

This will be a high payback season at Water Dog Lake Park, as a project from last year will be finished, and a new one will be completed. Volunteers will be amply rewarded with a sense of having made a difference, and having built a new trail for all to ride. This is a great opportunity to join the fun of completing a new trail.

The City of Belmont has "green lighted" a new trail segment for this season's project. It will be the next-to-last link in an unbroken series of single-track that runs the full length of the canyon. That's nearly three miles of destination type singletrack, rideable in both directions!

The new trail is well below the top of the canyon's western wall, and offers great views, intimate segments thru open oak woodlands, technical challenges and big fun.

The project this season will be a piece of cake. Much of the clearing was done during the scouting and flagging process, and half of the trail's length follows existing road cut. There is relatively little poison oak, and what does exist will be cut early while it's dormant. Already there is sufficient soil moisture to cut dirt, so work can proceed at any time. We just need volunteers!

In addition to the new trail, we will complete the final 70-feet of last season's project, and perform much needed maintenance on other trails as time permits.

Trail work is scheduled for: January 17; February 7; February 21; March 13; April 10

More dates are possible as rainfall permits.

Please sign up for as many dates as possible. We need your help. Please, e-mail [Berry Stevens \(bt3mtbiker@earthlink.net\)](mailto:BerryStevens@earthlink.net) to reserve your space on one or more of these dates.

There are a couple of Ritchey Z-Max tires to be given away to the 5<sup>th</sup> person to volunteer, so respond soon!

Water Dog Lake Park is located in the City of Belmont at the end of Carlmont Drive, near Ralston and Alameda De Las Pulgas.

# Rockin' Rick's ROMP Ride Report

By *Rich Andrews*

I just returned from the "Sea to Big Basin" ride with Glenn, Linda, Chris, Adrienne, Eric and his sweet lady. Now immersed in the afterglow of an all-day ride, my limbs are limp and my face is flush. Nothing legal feels finer.

We rode for six hours, covered 40 miles and climbed more than 4,000 feet. It was all fire-road.

This morning we meet by Gazos Creek on Highway 1, about 20 miles south of Half Moon Bay. Starting early and alone, thinking the strong climbers would pass me, I immediately got lost. After a mile of steep climbing along a fire-road, something just didn't feel right. Doubling back, I found the "correct" trail, and found myself way behind the group. I caught the others at the ride's halfway point, at Big Basin Park Head Quarters, where we reunited for our descent back to the sea.

I want so much to share the beauty of this ride. The climb is 2,000 feet up the ridge, non-stop, right out of the gate, but the grade is not too steep and is totally rideable. The good news is that being entirely fire-road, there is no need to concentrate on staying alive. I was able to enjoy the broad vistas of the enchanted forest below.

The view to the south was primeval woodland, thick with varieties of trees that seem to stretch forever. Towering conifers laced with phosphorescence lichen, and critter-tracks adorned the dusty way. As the climb gained elevation, the canopy of stately redwoods created a misty rain. Riding fast through the puddles, mud covered my body. I savored the coolness before the bright sun and further climbing warmed me as I topped the ridge.

It was impossible to stay focused on my riding, as I entered the Old Growth redwood forest. Magnificent trees, hundreds of years old, silently witnessed my passing.

A steep downhill interrupted the reverie; it was back to hanging on for dear life. The bike appeared possessed as I struggled to hang on.

As the way flattened, the halfway point was attained - Big Basin Redwoods State Park with all the amenities.

As we returned via Gazos Creek, we had to mind the deep gravel and steep incline. The creek was just below, and springs soaked the hillside above.



# SF Advocacy

(Continued from page 1)

not a dreamer's concept. However, an organized network does not currently exist, and it has no official status.

The centerpiece of this conceptual San Francisco trail network is Golden Gate Park. At present, off-road biking in the park, which is managed by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, is not allowed. However, recent edits to the park's master plan allow for the creation of a mountain

resources. The GGNRA includes lands such as Fort Funston, Ocean Beach, Land's End, and the Marin Headlands. SFMTB is looking for mountain bikers to volunteer and support this trail stewardship effort.

The Trails Forever stewardship program will also include the Mori Point coastal land in Pacifica, which was recently acquired by the GGNRA. This land has many excellent technical trails that could be opened to mountain bikes.

New trails in Golden Gate Park and the GGNRA will be built and maintained based on input from volunteers.

- 1 Visit and read our always up-to-date website to learn more about San Francisco mountain biking issues: [sfmtb.com](http://sfmtb.com)
- 2 Join the SFMTB newsgroup to discuss mountain biking issues: [topica.com/lists/sfmtb/](http://topica.com/lists/sfmtb/)
- 3 Attend the Mt. Davidson mountain bike ride on Sunday, January 11, 2004, and see how San Francisco trails could be expanded and improved. For details visit [sfbike.org/?chain](http://sfbike.org/?chain)

If you'd like to get involved, or have further questions, please contact Aaron at (415) 317-3753.



ROMP "Twenties" ride participants enjoy spectacular views and some of the best off road riding in San Francisco around Mount Davidson.

biking trail loop plan. The park's supervisors are eager to implement this change to the master plan and are accepting input from SFMTB and the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (SFBC). We hope to guide Rec. & Park in the creation of sustainable trails that can be created and maintained by a core group of volunteers.

Additionally, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) has started a trail stewardship program called "Trails Forever." "Trails Forever" is managed by the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the non-profit partner of the Golden Gate National Parks. The program's goal is to engage volunteers in trail stewardship and preserve fragile park

If mountain bikers are involved, these trails will include our interests and influences. If mountain bikers are not involved, we will likely get little or no consideration.

Historically, there has been little mountain biking advocacy or efforts to forge and define trail routes in the patchwork of parks and pavement of San Francisco. The time is ripe for us to make an impact and officially bring mountain biking into the city. If you live in, bike in, or generally care about bike access in the city, now is the time to get involved.

We're making it as easy for you to get involved in the SFMTB advocacy efforts. Here's how to get started:

Mt. Davidson Mountain Biking Tour  
Sunday, January 11, 2004  
10am - 1pm  
McLaren Lodge Stanyan @ Fell Streets

This 16-mile ride will take us through Golden Gate Park, along Sunset Blvd, up to the cross at Mt. Davidson, and back. The 1200-ft climb to the top is quite strenuous, but you'll be treated to some of the City's finest trail riding. Learn how SF trails could be expanded and improved. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Contact Aaron at [adt@sfmtb.com](mailto:adt@sfmtb.com) for more information.

This event is co-sponsored by the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (SFBC) and SFMTB.



# Holidays with Julie

By Claire Nipress

ROMP's annual Holiday Party was held at the Blue Pheasant Restaurant in Cupertino, on December 5th. Approximately 40 ROMP members and their guests came to eat, drink and celebrate the holidays.

By far the biggest hit at the party was guest speaker, Julie Furtado. Julie dominated woman's professional mountain bike racing from 1989 until retiring in 1996. Julie raced for both Yeti, and GT Cycles.

Julie's many racing accomplishments include: 5-time Cross-country US National Champion; 3-time Cross-country World Cup Champion; 1-time Downhill World Champion; winner of every pro women's NORBA cross-country race in 1993

At the party, instead of giving a standard presentation Julie held an informal and entertaining question and answer session.

Being modest, Julie described her first cycling win as being as much of a surprise to her as everyone. At the time she was more interested in skiing than bikes. She made winning a bike race sound too easy.

Julie had been a member of the U.S. National Ski Team throughout most of the 1980's, but after several knee surgeries, decided that attending the University of Colorado on a downhill skiing

scholarship made more sense. While attending college in Boulder, Julie began cycling for training. Luckily for the sport of mountain biking



she was persuaded to further pursue biking, and went on to be inducted into the Mountain Bike Hall of Fame



([mtnbikehalloffame.com](http://mtnbikehalloffame.com)) for her accomplishments.

About seven years ago after retiring from racing, Julie moved from Durango, CO, to Santa Cruz where she now lives. Her favorite place to ride is at Wilder Ranch on the "Secret Trails."

Julie expressed her respect for ROMP and other advocacy groups that work to ensure that mountain bikes continue to have access to old and new trails. She also does her bit to help the mountain biking cause by helping with local trail work.

At the end of the open discussion, ROMP presented Julie with a bottle of wine from our local Ridge Winery, and a ROMP jersey. (Hurry up and order your own if you have not done so yet, and you'll ride as well as Julie!).

For the rest of the evening ROMP members kept the bartender busy. Some hit the dance floor with moves equal to those used to clear the

gnarliest trails. Others swapped bike stories and news with friends. A great time was had by all.

# Ride Listings

Arastradero Second Saturday Social  
**02:30 PM Saturday, January 10 2004**  
Duration: 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. Depending on skill level and time, we may go up dirt Alpine rd. after. 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. Contact Information: Josh Moore 408) 420 7342 [josh\\_moore@comcast.net](mailto:josh_moore@comcast.net)

Mt. Davidson Mountain Biking Tour  
**10:00 AM Sunday, January 11 2004**  
Duration: 3:00 Meet at McLaren Lodge in San Francisco. (Stanyan at Fell)

This 16-mile ride will take us through Golden Gate Park, along Sunset Blvd, up to the cross at Mt. Davidson, and back. The 1,200 foot climb to the top is strenuous but you'll be treated to some of the City's finest trail riding. Learn how S.F. trails could be expanded and improved. Bring plenty of water and a snack.

Sponsored by San Francisco Bicycle Coalition (SFBC) Location: McLaren Lodge Stanyan at Fell San Francisco Contact Information: Aaron 415-317-3753 [athies@yahoo.com](mailto:athies@yahoo.com) [sfmtb.com/sheets/rides.htm](http://sfmtb.com/sheets/rides.htm)

2nd Sunday Ride at Soquel Demo Forest  
**10:00 AM Sunday, January 11 2004**  
Duration: 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](http://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](mailto:randrews@arc.nasa.gov) [mtb.live.com/rides/SoquelDemo.html](http://mtb.live.com/rides/SoquelDemo.html)

3rd Sunday Ride at ECdM (Skeggs)  
**10:00 AM Sunday, January 18 2004**  
Duration: 3:00 2 RIDES: D/DIFF/15/3000 & B+/INT/9/1500 --Meet at Skeggs Point on Skyline Blvd at 10am. All hammerheads should ride with Dave. Anyone who wants to ride the trails at a more leisurely pace should ride with Claire. Contact Information: Claire or Dave (408) 255-3464 [crashcall@aol.com](mailto:crashcall@aol.com)

3rd Tuesday Alpine Road  
**05:00 PM Tuesday, January 20 2004**



Duration: 3:00 This year round ride has a couple options on where to meet up. 1st chance is the California ave Caltrain station in Palo Alto @ 5:05 pm, meeting the Northbound#79 and the Southbound#66 trains @ 5:05 pm. From here we pedal through Stanford's "Professorville" on lightly travelled streets, over Old Page Mill rd, through Arastradero Preserve to The Portola Valley ranch . The 2nd chance to meet up occurs here @ 6:15, 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 hammerheads are summarily ditched and left to prove something somewhere else  
Location: California Ave Caltrain station in Palo Alto Palo Alto CA Contact Information: Jim Sullivan 650-493-8774 [ssulljm@juno.com](mailto:ssulljm@juno.com)

4th Saturday Beginner's Clinic  
**01:00 PM Saturday, January 24 2004**  
Duration: 3:00 A/Easy/6/800 On the 4th Saturday of each month, meet at 1pm at the Arastradero Preserve, at the main parking area on Arastradero Road. 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](mailto:ssulljm@juno.com). RSVP is a must, as the meeting spot at the Preserve can vary with class focus Contact Information: Jim 650-493-8774 [ssulljm@juno.com](mailto:ssulljm@juno.com)

ROMP Last Sunday @ Wilder Ranch is BACK!  
**10:00 AM Sunday, January 25 2004**  
Duration: 4:00 B-C/INT/16/2000' --  
Wilder Ranch is 2 miles past the traffic light at Western Dr. on Highway 1 (N). We will meet in the parking lot near the restrooms. Leave the parking lot at 10:00. Lots of single track on your favorite trails: Old Cabin, Rodrigo, Twin Oaks, Zane Grey. Many regroupings and "do-overs". Bring water and a snack. Be prepared for the best views of Monterey Bay, great technical single track and faces you may not have seen for a while! Lunch in Santa Cruz after for those interested. Michael & Jain Location: Wilder Ranch Highway 1 (West of SC at 2 mi.) Santa Cruz CA Contact Information:  
Michael & Jain Light (831) 662-9744 [malight@pacbell.net](mailto:malight@pacbell.net)

First Sunday Social Ride at Saratoga Gap  
**10:00 AM Sunday, February 01 2004**  
Duration: 3:00 B/EASY/11/1500 Meet at 10am at Grizzly Flat on Skyline Blvd (in

between 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:  
Claire & Dave 408-255-3464  
[crashcall@scoreone.com](mailto:crashcall@scoreone.com);  
[tripman@scoreone.com](mailto:tripman@scoreone.com)

2nd Sunday Ride at Soquel Demo Forest  
**10:00 AM Sunday, February 08 2004**  
Please see January 11 for details.

Arastradero Second Saturday Social  
**02:30 PM Saturday, February 14 2004**  
Please see January 10 for details.

3rd Sunday Ride at ECdM (Skeggs)  
**10:00 AM Sunday, February 15 2004**  
Please see January 18 for details.

3rd Tuesday Alpine Road  
**05:00 PM Tuesday, February 17 2004**  
Please see January 20 for details.

4th Saturday Beginner's Clinic  
**01:00 PM Saturday, February 28 2004**  
Please see January 24 for details.

ROMP Last Sunday @ Wilder Ranch is BACK!  
**10:00 AM Sunday, February 29 2004**  
Please see January 25 for details.

First Sunday Social Ride at Saratoga Gap  
**10:00 AM Sunday, March 07 2004**  
Please see February 1 for details.

Arastradero Second Saturday Social  
**02:30 PM Saturday, March 13 2004**  
Please see February 14 for details.

2nd Sunday Ride at Soquel Demo Forest  
**10:00 AM Sunday, March 14 2004**  
Please see February 15 for details.

3rd Tuesday Alpine Road  
**05:00 PM Tuesday, March 16 2004**  
Please see February 17 for details.



## 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.

# Skeggs Changes

*(Continued from page 1)*

ROMP supports the overall proposal, and expects to be involved in helping MROSD plan and execute these changes. Together MROSD, ROMP, and other trail-user groups will work towards minimizing the environmental impacts associated with the trail system, while increasing the recreational opportunities in the preserve.

## Environmental Impact

The root of the problem that the Watershed Protection Program seeks to address lies several miles downstream from ECdM. Coho Salmon and Steelhead Trout, both listed as “threatened species” under the U.S. Endangered Species Act of 1973, spawn in San Gregorio Creek. Unfortunately, San Gregorio Creek is experiencing an increase in the amount of silt being delivered from upstream sources. Soil carried by seasonal rain run-off flows into tributaries and creeks that eventually feed into San Gregorio Creek, where trout and salmon eggs are smothered in their spawning beds.

Most of the land in ECdM, approximately 2,788 of the park’s 2,821 acres, is located within the San Gregorio Creek watershed. That means that nearly all of the rain that falls in the park will eventually reach San Gregorio Creek. MSROD, as stewards of the land, has the responsibility to mitigate the siltation that occurs downstream by implementing changes in the park.

Although saving a species from possible extinction should be reason enough to work toward lowering silt

loads delivered from the preserve, there are other concerns as well. As part of the Endangered Species Act, persons or groups that deliberately or accidentally kill or harm an endangered or threatened species can be subject to criminal penalties. Since two “threatened” species are being impacted, MSROD could be charged with a “take” of these fish under the Endangered Species Act, and punished as such. The repercussions of being found guilty of a take could include monetary penalties, fines, or closure of the preserve by the Federal Government. Needless to say, neither trail-users nor MSROD are interested in these options.

### Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mid-Peninsula Regional Open Space District

The Board of Directors will be considering whether to approve the El Corte de Madera Creek Open Space Preserve Watershed Protection Program.

Wednesday, January 21, 2004  
7:00 P.M.

Los Altos Youth Center  
1 N. San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA

It should be noted that at least one effort is currently underway to de-list Coho from the Government’s endangered species list for areas south of San Francisco. The Central Coast Forest Association ([ccfassociation.org](http://ccfassociation.org)) argues that Coho are not indigenous to the rivers south of San Francisco, and as such should not be protected in that area. The group contends that Coho were introduced into the streams by fish hatcheries, and that they compete with Steelhead for survival. Although their arguments are well documented, others document counter-arguments equally well – which is true is difficult to determine.

The siltation problem that we have today stems largely from the preserve’s history. The land within ECdM was logged for much of the 100 years prior to being acquired by MSROD in 1988. Much of the present trail system was created during the long period of logging as seasonal “skid roads” – roads where felled trees were “skidded” downhill to sawmills based along the creeks. These “roads” were further developed as trails for off-road motorcycle use during the period just prior to MROSD’s stewardship.

Much of the siltation problem that exists in the park today is a direct result of these prior land uses. The original skid roads were never intended to be long-term year-round trails, yet we use them as such.

## What’s Changing and When?

In January the Watershed Protection Program will be presented to the MROSD Board of Directors for approval. The meeting is open to the public, and anyone interested should attend.

Many of the recommendations that are incorporated into the plan result from data collected by Timothy Best, a Certified Engineering Geologist hired by MROSD to measure and identify problem areas in the park.

Assuming that the proposed plan is approved the following changes are expected:

- 1) Crossover Trail (the steep connector between Crosscut and Gordon Mill Trails) will be closed. Prior to its closure, a replacement trail will be constructed between Timber View and Gordon Mill Trails.
- 2) Lower Fir Trail will be rerouted between the vista point and Methuselah Trail.
- 3) Short segments of Blue Blossom, Virginia Mill, and North and South

*(Continued on page 11)*

(Continued from page 10)

Leaf Trails will be rerouted.

- 4) Giant Salamander will be targeted for tread improvements that will reduce siltation associated with it.
- 5) El Corte de Madera Creek Trail will be reduced in width from a 12-foot wide fire-road to a 4-foot wide trail.
- 6) Portions of Tafoni, Methuselah, Spring Board, Virginia Mill, and Lawrence Creek Trails will be reduced to "trail" width.

In the delicate balancing act between environmental responsibility and recreational opportunities, it appears as though both may be enhanced through this plan. Proposed changes

of developed land. Using such an approach, trail-users should have an enhanced experience, while at the same time environmental impacts are dramatically reduced.

Proposed changes in patrolling techniques contained in the Watershed Protection Program also allow MROSD to convert some former logging roads to trail widths. Instead of patrolling trails and conducting rescue operations in full-sized trucks, future operations will be conducted with 4-wheel ATVs. The narrower width of these vehicles allows for reduced trail widths while retaining acceptable service levels.

When completed, the proposed plan

trails where permits are already in-hand will start first. As permits become available, work will begin on other trails as workers and construction seasons dictate.

#### How To Get Involved

Although we are optimistic that the Watershed Protection Program will improve the preserve, the improvements will not happen without your help.

First, the plan is not approved. On January 21, 2004, the MROSD Board of Directors meets and must approve it. The Board answers to its constituents. If you support the plan, you need to let the board know by writing, calling, or attending the approval meeting.



Tyler French rides up a challenging, technical, yet highly erosive stretch of the Manzanita Trail at ECDM

Second, if the plan is approved volunteers are needed to work. Hand-built single-track trails do not materialize out of thin air; they're built. MROSD does not have the manpower to build these trails alone. Much of the staff's time will be working on non-trail related improvements, including building footbridges and reconstructing a number of culverts that transport rain run-off in the preserve.

ROMP plans on helping create new trails that follow IMBA's "Trail Buildingguide" [imba.com/resources/trail\\_building/index.html](http://imba.com/resources/trail_building/index.html) Volunteers will be needed to help build these trails.

include reducing trail widths on selected trails, and building new single-track trails by hand - trail-building machines may be impractical due to steep slopes, and MROSD's goal is to minimize the environmental footprint of the new trails.

Reducing the amount of developed land area in the park will reduce the outflow of sedimentation. MROSD has taken the stance that reducing a trail's width will reduce the footprint

would increase the total off-road miles by 1.4, and increase the total number of trails (as opposed to fire-road) by eight miles. This plan has the potential for being a huge win-win for trail-users and the environment.

Assuming the plan is approved, work will start in early 2004. There is a long permitting process for trail-building, culvert replacement and other erosion control activities, so construction of

Without active support in ushering this plan through the approval process, and in constructing trails, this plan stands to fail. It's up to each of us to not let that happen.

More information, including details of the proposed changes, see [website.openspace.org](http://website.openspace.org) or contact Matt Freeman, District Planner. [watershedinfo@opensapce.org](mailto:watershedinfo@opensapce.org) or (650) 691-1200.

# Donner lake Rim Trail

By *Berry Stevens*

On September 13th, ROMP members performed trail work in support of the on-going effort to build the Donner Lake Rim Trail (DLRT) near Tahoe. When completed, the DLRT will be a 20-mile loop encircling Donner Lake along both sides of I-80.

Josh Moore, Rich Andrews, Coraline *Journal* and myself joined Mike Masek of the Viking Ski Club to construct a portion of the DLRT above I-80 in the upper reaches of Negro Bill Canyon.

Before trail work started, we participated in honoring Adda Quinn, who represented her family. The Quinn family donated money for a much needed bridge along the trail. Adda has been a tireless advocate for trails and equestrian access. She has participated in several "ROMP 'n Stomps" events, which are joint mountain bike and equestrian rides. It was great to see her efforts recognized.

After the ceremony we hiked to the

work site, and began to sink our tools in the dirt. Our group had been assigned a particularly difficult section of trail to build. Steep side slope and many roots and rocks kept our progress short and hard earned. We completed about 70 feet of new trail, including a drainage crossing.

After hiking out and getting our spiffy long-sleeved T-shirts we retired to the Viking Ski Lodge, where ROMP had generously sponsored our stay. The ski lodge is basically a hostel available to Viking Club members. Since we were not members we helped pay for

our stay by preparing a delicious group dinner

The next morning Josh, Richard, Coraline and I took the opportunity to ride "Hole in The Ground," a nearby 16-mile loop trail with great view and continuous challenges. The trail offers 360-degree views of the surrounding vistas, including Castle Peak.

During our return down the trail, the group decided to split. Josh and I proceeded at a brisk pace, while Rich and Coraline took a more mellow "stop and smell the roses" ride.

Conditions were perfect with temperatures in the 60's, little breeze, clear skies, just enough sun, and no trail dust. We stopped at Lower Lola Montez Lake to enjoy a snack while viewing the beautiful alpine lake, before heading back to pavement and returning to the Viking Ski Club.

Both the trail work and the ride made for a good weekend. We did our share to help move forward a great trail project, rode one of the best trails in the Sierra Nevadas, and enjoyed the warmth, hospitality and convenience of

the Viking Ski Club. If you are a skier and a cyclist, I recommend joining the club.

ROMP will be supporting this annual project again next September. Reserve time for another great weekend.



# The Adventures of Captain Kickstand

WOLVERINA, E.M.T. WOMAN AND "SCARE" THE CROW, FIND AN EXHAUSTED ULTRA-MARATHONER. HE IS SICK, INJURED, AND DEHYDRATED DUE TO DRINKING WATER NEAR A HOT SPRING.



HE HAD FILTERED THE WATER, BUT HIGH-TEMP BACTERIA REMAINED

DAMN RADIO IS USELESS IN THIS CANYON

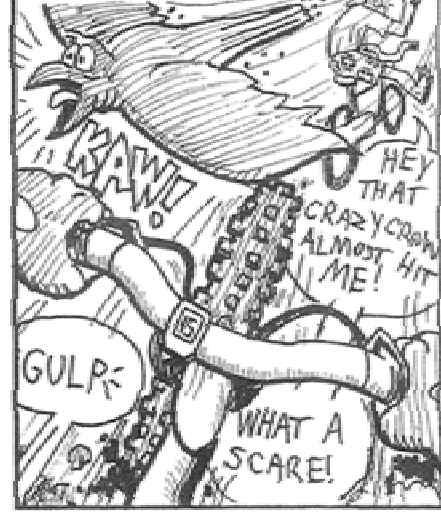


THE VICTIM IS DIAGNOSED... EXHAUSTION, DEHYDRATION, CONCUSSION, POSSIBLE FRACTURED HEEL...



BY AIR OR LAND WHO CAN LEND A HAND?

AS IGOR BOMBS DOWN THE KILLER TRAIL BEHIND SURFER JOE...



THEY STOP AND THE CROW PERCHES ON IGOR'S HANDLEBARS



SCARE SQUAWKS AND DELIVERS A TELEPATHIC TRAIL MAP

IN ORDER TO GET TO THE STRANDED MARATHONER TO MAKE A RESCUE, SCARE LEADS THEM DOWN SECRET ROUTES OVER MONSTROUS JURASSIC RIDGES IN THE GREAT PARK, BEAUTIFUL TRAILS OVER THE BACKS OF THESE SUNKEN GIANTS WEAVE THROUGH A FOREST PRIMEVAL TO THE DEPTHS OF THE CANYON TO THE HOTSPRING



IGOR AND JOE ARRIVE.. HEY BOYS... WE'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU!



WOLVERINA AND E.M.T. WOMAN INSTRUCT IGOR AND SURFER JOE TO HAND CARRY THE VICTIM IN THE EMERGENCY LITTER UP OUT OF THE CANYON TO A DIRT ROAD INTERSECTION 2 MILES AND 1200' UP--WOLVERINA AND E.M.T. WOMAN RIDE UP THE TRAIL TO MAKE RADIO CONTACT WITH A RANGER...



RANGER LA-ROUX, RANGER ROO ANXIOUSLY SEARCHES THE HORIZON AS THE SUN GOES DOWN...



# “Fast” Fred Stanke

by Fred Stanke

A few years ago, after being away from California for 13 years, I moved back to the bay area, and took up biking at that same time. I started trying to bike to the top of Page Mill Road in Palo Alto, which seemed at the time to be an almost ludicrous goal. Eventually I made it to the top and "discovered" that there were trails up there, and that those trails were inhabited by ROMP.

While on a ride, I met a group of riders who were with ROMP, and was struck by their friendliness, and by their evident experience in this sport that was so new to me. I started riding with them, and haven't stopped since.

I started with the beginner "A" ride, at Russian Ridge Open Space. Afterward I routinely joined ROMP for several rides a month, from the more relaxed, social "B" and "C" rides, up through the more difficult "D" and "E" rides. In my opinion, the "E" rides are for folks who need their heads and knees examined! (See the "General Ride Info" section of the

newsletter for more detailed ride rating info.)

I did officially join ROMP too, dues and all. As a fairly apolitical creature, they made it easy for me to become active in local lobbying to insure that this sport that I have come to enjoy so much continues to be available to all. I have had great fun, and have earned a great sense of accomplishment, in joining some of the work projects that ROMP has sponsored.

It is wonderful to be on a ROMP ride, and not worry about where you are, or where you're going - just follow the bikes in front of you. Some of the ride venues, like El Corte de Madera Open Space or Henry Coe State Park, have incredibly complex and extensive trail systems. ROMP rides are a great way to find out what's available and how to get around.

There is an abundance of mechanical expertise in the ride groups too. Some



Fast Fred Stanke is Friendly too . . . Really!

of the trailside repairs that they have helped me with have been awesome. In one case I managed to "taco" a front wheel (i.e. your wheel is folded over in such a way that it resembles a taco). It looked hopeless, but Glenn, one of the ROMP regulars, whapped the wheel on the ground a few times and straightened it out. Away I rode, and finished the ride with no further ado.

Eventually, I took the opportunity to plan and lead a couple of rides near my home, in those first open spaces I "discovered" around Page Mill Road and Skyline Blvd. I guess my experience has come full circle, as I now help others as they once helped me.

## Romp Directory

PO Box 1723, Campbell, CA 95009-1723 408-380-2271 x2171 www.romp.org

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Secretary	You?		secretary@romp.org
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Trail Work Coordinator	Berry Stevens	650-364-6785	trailwork@romp.org
Ride Coordinator	Julie Brown	650-814-8271	ride@romp.org
Sponsor Coordinator	John Morgan	408-224-6879	sponsor@romp.org
National Mtn Bike Patrol	Dave Wieland	408-371-2729	nmbp@romp.org
Web Master	Tim Pepper		webmaster@romp.org

## ROMP 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

# 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 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Family members \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type Individual (\$20.00) Family (\$25.00) Student (\$10.00)

New Renewal Change of Address Donation \$ . . . . .

Send Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_

Via US 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!

## Jersey & T-Shirt 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.

**T-shirts: \$10 + \$2 shipping**  
(Sorry, only size XL available)

**To order, fill out the following:**  
(or pick them up at a club meeting or by arrangement at a club ride)

Size	Color (olive or forest)	Qty.	Subtotal
Order total :			_____
Shipping \$2 ea.:			_____
Total:			<b>_____</b>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

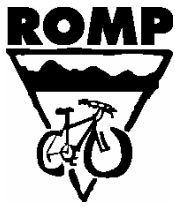
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send form with check payable to:  
ROMP - Attention: Apparel  
PO Box 1723  
Campbell CA 95009-1723







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

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Inside this issue:

SF MB Advocacy	1
Skeggs Changes	1
The Price of Access	2
ROMP Races	3
Why Seasonal Clo-	4
Water Dog	6
Rick's Ride Report	6
Holiday Party	8
Ride Listings	8,9
Donner Rim Trail	12
Cap'n Kickstand	13
"Fast" Fred	14

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

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



Broken Spoke 782 Laurel Street, San Carlos 650-594-9210  
 brokenspoke.com



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



The Bicycle Outfitter 963 Fremont Avenue, Los Altos 650-948-8092  
 bicycleoutfitter.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 Cycles. 1111 Willow St. San Jose, 95125. 408-2932606

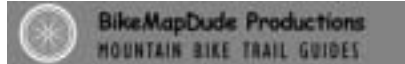


Trail Head Cyclery **TRAIL HEAD CYCLERY**  
 14450 Union Ave, San Jose 408-369-9666 trailheadonline.com



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: bikemapdude.com/

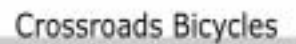


Walt's Cycle and Fitness. 116 Carroll Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 408-736-2630

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



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