



# MOUNTAIN CYCLIST

LEADING THE PARTICIPATION OF MOUNTAIN CYCLISTS IN THE TRAIL COMMUNITY

MARCH-APRIL 2006

## Responsible

By Josh Moore

In the early eighties, there was a group of cyclists who rode in the mountains south of Los Gatos. These treks into the chaparral were called "romps". When trails started being closed to bicycles, the cyclists responded, and formed an advocacy group by the same name. I reckon ROMP's founders simply picked some words to match ROMP, but the words they picked defined how ROMP works today.

Imagine if you will, Radical Organized Mountain Pedalers, using at best civil disobedience, and at worst utter disregard for the law in order to achieve goals; or Rabid Omery Mountain Pedalers, biting, kicking and drooling on rangers and land managers to reach objectives. We are however, Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers, but what exactly do we mean by "Responsible"?

The American Heritage Dictionary says:

- Liable to be required to give account, as of one's actions or of the discharge of a duty or trust.
- Involving personal accountability or ability to act without guidance or superior authority: *a responsible position within the firm.*
- Being a source or cause.
- Able to make moral or rational decisions on one's own and therefore answerable for one's behavior.
- Able to be trusted or depended upon; reliable.
- Based on or characterized by good judgment or sound thinking: *responsible journalism*
- Having the means to pay debts or fulfill obligations.
- Required to render account; answerable: *The cabinet is responsible to the parliament.*

ROMP is a public benefit corporation. Our membership has entrusted us to advocate on behalf of them. I believe we do a fine job of showing up at master planning meetings and trail advisory committees to inform and

Harvey Bear. Our membership is actively involved with California Department of Forestry in the Soquel Demonstration Forest, and with California State Parks in Henry Coe and Wilder Ranch. Recently, we were



educate land managers of the mountain bike perspective. Currently we are active working with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) on the Sierra Azul-Bear Creek Redwoods, and the La Honda Creek / Driscoll Ranch Master Plan. We are working with Santa Clara County Parks on their Trails Advisory Committee for Sanborn Skyline Park, have adopted trails in Steven's Canyon, and intend to be active at

there when San Mateo County parks commissioners accepted a Master Plan for Huddart and Wunderlich parks with the addition of a cycling route on dirt from Woodside to Skyline. Over the years, our accomplishments and participation have shown that we are dependable and reliable. Through our web site, email list, and newsletter we answer to our membership and land managers for our behavior.

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# ROMP - Cupertino Bike Shop 2006 Bike Swap Meet

By Linda Kahn

Sunday, April 30th, 2006 will be the next date for the 2006 ROMP/ Cupertino Bike Shop Swap Meet. ROMP needs volunteers to help at the event throughout the day and is hoping you would be willing to give us a few hours of your time--you don't have to be a ROMP member to join us!

The swap meet is ROMP's biggest fund raiser of the year; with Cupertino Bike giving us the proceeds of all the spaces purchased by vendors at the event. We need folks to help with vendor unloading & parking, selling food and drinks, and assisting with hand-stamping and admissions duties. If you can assist for a few hours, please contact me, Linda Kahn at: [kahnartist@worldnet.att.net](mailto:kahnartist@worldnet.att.net). You will be given 'free' admission to the swap, some snacks and food, along with meeting new friends who enjoy cycling as much as you do.

The ROMP swap meet was created well over 10 years ago as a fund-raising idea for the club. Every year, it's popularity continued to grow as both buyers and sellers heard about the event and attended. It's grown from 10 sellers to years where we had over 75 sellers in the back lot. In the past, we've had names such as: Bell Sports, Ritchey, Specialized, Ibis, and local



shops clearing out all kinds of merchandise. We also get teams, racers, clubs and individuals who are into cycling so there is a wide array of parts at all price levels. We have heard from many, many people that this swap meet is one of the 'best' ones of the year as it has the widest selection of bikes, clothing, parts, and tools for the lowest prices.

*The event is held every year on THE LAST SUNDAY IN APRIL, in the rear parking lot of the Cupertino Bike Shop.*

The shop is located at 10493 S. De Anza Blvd, in the Longs/Albertson's shopping center. There is plenty of free parking in the shopping center parking lot, and we ask folks to park there; and help keep the neighborhood free of cars.

Because the back lot can only hold a limited number of vendors, we ask that you begin to reserve your space NOW; as we are usually sold out well before the event begins. Spaces can be reserved with tables or without. There is a small admission price and people do begin lining up early (no early birds will be allowed inside) for the opening. We will be charging extra for 'day of' space openings, so please be aware and reserve EARLY.

The swap will begin at 10:00 AM sharp and end around 4:00 PM. You may call or email the shop for reservations and information.  
Cupertino Bike Shop  
408 255-2217  
[sprocket@cupertinobike.com](mailto:sprocket@cupertinobike.com).

# Subaru Trail Care Crew

## and IMBA's California Campaign

By Paul Nam

East and West Coast IMBA Trail Care Crews washed up on the Left Coast of Henry Coe State Park the last weekend of January. They zigged through the rain and zagged into the sunlight that falls on those verdant hills of Coe. They talked about trail building skills, and presided over repairs on a long section of the Grapevine Trail.

The festivities began as a multitude converged at Specialized's Morgan Hill headquarters for a Friday night affair, complete with complimentary pizza and beer, to hear a special announcement:

"A new IMBA California Campaign will leverage a historical partnership to enhance mountain bicycle advocacy efforts.

The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) and Specialized Bicycles, close partners since IMBA's founding in 1988, are pleased to announce a new "California Campaign" initiative, and the opening of a California IMBA office underwritten by Specialized. Staffing the office will be Tom Ward, formerly the California State Parks Recreation Manager. Ward worked in the California State Parks system for 16 years, experience that will help him identify opportunities for new shared-use trails throughout the state.



Specialized and IMBA believe the time is right to reverse the anti-bike sentiment that has plagued California for too long. With more mountain bikers than any other state in the nation, 60 IMBA-affiliated bike clubs, and increasing numbers of bicycling industry leaders stepping up their advocacy programs, we believe mountain biking opportunities in California will see significant growth in 2006.

The objectives for IMBA's 2006 California Campaign include:

- Open trails by working with IMBA clubs; local, state and federal agencies and the state assembly
- Promote a statewide approach to advocacy issues.
- Improve relationships with other trail user groups and form alliances (i.e. hikers and equestrians).
- Spearhead advocacy events around the state to get more riders involved in the IMBA California Campaign.
- Work on contentious Wildmess legislation that threatens to close trails." [www.imba.com](http://www.imba.com)

Ariadne Scott, Specialized Bicycle Advocacy Coordinator, made the announcement and introduced Tom Ward. Tom will be in close contact with State Government, other agencies and mountain bike clubs up and down our Golden State. Ariadne presented Tom with the latest top-drawer version of the Stumpjumper. That generous gift is only a small piece of the sizeable capital resource that Specialized has extended to ROMP and IMBA since 1988. An IMBA TCC weekend is a special event to begin with, but this gift made ours historic. A trail building class was held at Specialized, and volunteers received lunches both Saturday and Sunday, special edition water-bottles and shirts. Light drizzle on Friday night yielded to a cloudy but dry Saturday morning. The trail class at Specialized and the trail work at Coe began simultaneously at 9am. Folks braved the potential for wet weather and turned out en masse: 35 veteran trail builders convened at Coe while 50 additional volunteers attended the class to learn efficient trail building techniques.

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ROMP is a Cause. We advocate responsible trail use. In case there is any doubt about what that means, we believe that cyclists should only use trails that are open to cydists, during permitted hours, according to the regulations of the land manager, and when trail conditions can sustain wheeled use. We believe that bicycles should be ridden in such a way to be conducive to a positive trail experience for all trail users.



I doubt anyone feels that ROMP as a whole is irresponsible. It is the sum of our membership's knowledge, volunteerism, dedication and care that makes ROMP responsible. ROMP as a whole is far greater than the sum of its membership. We represent all mountain bikers, not just our membership. Our dedicated advocates are human, and are fallible, and subject to temptation.

I am not condoning or excusing irresponsibility. These days I am generally a law abiding citizen. I think the California motor vehicle code is a good idea. I pay my taxes, show up for work forty hours a week, and do my best to not let my selfishness lead me to lying, cheating or stealing. Most people I know think I am responsible. Nevertheless, last year I drove my car too fast and got a speeding ticket. I got a warning from

a ranger for riding my bike too fast. I made a couple of photocopies at work for personal use. I told a lie and did not set it straight because I thought the truth would be more hurtful. I am a lot better than I used to be, mostly because I don't like that bad feeling in my gut when I get caught. Sure, I am an adrenaline junkie, and like a thrill. There was a time when I wanted attention, and getting caught was the only way I could get it.

I think though, there are degrees of irresponsibility. While riding a trail at night is illegal in most jurisdictions, it generally does not hurt the environment, does not create user conflicts, and riders generally do not get hurt more often at night in my opinion. Exceeding the 15 mile per hour speed limit on a fire road with clear 1000 foot lines of sight in the back country of a State Park where

encountering another user is rare, is no more legal than racing by park headquarters through crowds of hikers. Riding a sustainable, underused trail that is closed to bikes is perhaps better than riding on a trail that is

closed to everyone due to the fact that it's unsustainable and in a fragile ecosystem. I personally would prefer to see the really damaging behavior monitored and enforced, rather than enforcing what is easy. Perhaps this is already done. I hear of a lot of people getting warnings for speeding, yet citations for building illegal trails and campfires.

Now I am going to make an analogy that I hope does not offend. I have a friend who is a Mormon.

She is a leader in her church and believes deeply in its mission and benefit to its community. She is proud of her mission to carry the Gospel to the people of Peru. The Mormon Church does not advocate same sex couples, pre-marital sex, birth control, caffeine, alcohol or tobacco use. She rarely engages in just a few of these forbidden activities. I have another friend who is a devout Christian. He has recently devoted his life to the service of God as a chaplain for the VA. He was not always so virtuous, though. He used to be a womanizer, a lush, and a conceit. These two friends are lucky. The One who will judge them, I believe, forgives and has forgiven them of their transgressions.

These friends are good people. They are respected by their community, and society as a whole. Their behavior is not always perfectly aligned with their beliefs. This does not diminish the importance and stature of Christianity in their lives, and society as a whole. ROMP is not a religion, but in many ways it is a worthwhile comparison. ROMP's mission of responsible trail use and education is lofty, and our membership is human. I believe it is too much to expect every ROMP member to obey every trail regulation all the time, just as most people drive through a yellow light, or exceed the speed limit every now and again. Occasional trail transgressions do not diminish the importance and stature of ROMP in the trail community, nor does it mean that the cyclist is a bad person.



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Our task on the Grapevine Trail was to fix a half mile of eroded tread. The previous day, IMBA TCCs, park staff, and volunteers performed an assessment of the trail to determine what techniques were to be used. The park district's Maintenance Chief was conservative and limited the freedom of the TCC to apply more aggressive techniques. Ideally we would have been permitted to manipulate the trail into three dimensions, creating a series of undulating shallow turns, and adding rock armor at drainage crossings. Unfortunately, the full extent of our vision was not allowed, as we were unable to obtain special permission in advance.



Due to limitations surrounding manipulation of the trail, in combination with the large attendance, we ran out of work for the 30 volunteers on Sunday. With so many people eager to lend a helping hand we could have accomplished much much more. The trail site was chosen based on its need for repair and ease of accessibility. It is important to note that the IMBA TCC weekends are intended to be educational as well as constructive. This weekend was no exception. This stretch of trail had its tread repaired, drainage installed, and volunteers

walked away with a greater knowledge of trail preservation. However, the resulting trail solution is temporary: we were unable to apply the prescription that would solve erosion problems permanently.

Enforcing strict compliance with, and interpretation of, State Park regulations and trail standards are the duties of Parks and Rec staff in order to ensure the conservation of park resources. From a discussion that ensued with staff, I learned that there is potential for the procurement of special blanket permits that would allow trained and approved volunteers

to perform the type of trail work techniques necessary for long term preservation. Only in recent weeks did the Monterey District hire a new environmental scientist and archaeologist. Future trail developments depend upon the approval of these key personnel. I intend to work closely with these, and other Monterey District staff, to reach a better working relationship.

For the TCC visit in Coe two years ago, staff granted permission to perform rock armoring and grade reversals on the Anza Trail. Since then, our State Park and Rec agency has been reorganized and it is clear that a rededication to rigorous accountability to resource conservation is in force. After some debate, I conclude that this is a good thing. My hope is that instead of driving volunteers away, the policy will challenge us to forge a greater cooperation and improved trailwork opportunities with District Staff.

We capped the weekend off with a ride that featured the descent of the Jackson Trail since the trail we worked on needed time to stabilize.

The IMBA TCC visit was very productive for Coe - a major upshot was the defining of parameters and identification of procedures to legally pursue more complex trail repairs. That combined with the wonderful volunteer turnout, a smoothly run event, and productive trail work makes this IMBA TCC visit a success.

Coe is a beautiful place to ride, filled with endless miles of singletrack to explore. Here is a digest of some upcoming Pine Ridge Association events at Coe: Spring Trail Day, March 25. Back Country Weekend, April 29-30. Mother's Day Breakfast, May 14. Hunting Hollow 5k/10k Race and Fun Run, June 10. For details see [www.coe-park.org](http://www.coe-park.org).

This article would not be complete without an expression of our gratitude to Coe Park Staff, who permitted the event



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## March Monthly Rides

**Sunday, March 05, 2006. 10:00 AM First Sunday Social Ride at Saratoga Gap** (3:00) B/EASY/11/1500. Meet at 10am at Grizzly Flat on Skyline Blvd (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. Location: Start at Grizzly Flat. Contact Information: Dave Tripiet (408) 255-3464 tripiet@aol.com

**Saturday, March 11, 2006. 2:30 PM Arastradero Second Saturday Social** (2:00) B/EASY/7/900. This friendly, introductory ride covers most major trails in the preserve, including some moderate hills, jumps, tight switchbacks and single track. More skilled riders are encouraged to join us, socialize and provide support. Directions and Map: Take Oregon Expressway / Page Mill Rd south past hwy 280. Turn right on Arastradero, and right into the parking lot. Bring your helmet, a snack and water. Rain cancels. Location: Arastradero Open Space Preserve Parking lot near gate A, Arastradero Rd. Palo Alto CA. Contact Information: Josh Moore (408) 420 7342 josh\_moore@comcast.net

**Sunday, March 12, 2006. 9:30 AM 2nd Sunday Ride at Soquel Demo Forest** (4:00) C/INT/12-18/2500-3000. The ROMP Second Sunday Demonstration Forest Ride will join the MBO SC Club ride. Both clubs will meet at the parking lot across the bridge at 9:30 AM. Wheels rolling by 10:00 AM, up Buzzard's Lagoon to Santa Rosalia Ridge. Consensus will determine the route down the mountain. 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. Contact Information: Rich Andrews 408-738-1384 randrews@arc.nasa.gov

**Saturday, March 18, 2006. 10:00 AM 3rd Saturday NMBP ride** (4:00) This is a ride for the NMBP and all those who wish to ride with us and just have fun. I will change the ride location from time to time. But half the rides will be in Soquel Demo Forest. Be ready to ride at 10:00am. The riders and their abilities will determine riding trails and duration. This is a social ride for intermediate riders and above but, no one gets left behind (but me). Location: ride changes monthly. Contact Information: Dave Wieland 408 371-2729 traildog@sbcglobal.net

**Sunday, March 19, 2006. 10:00 AM 3rd Sunday Ride at SDF (Demo Forest)** (3:00) C-D/DIFF/15/3000 -- C-D/16-18/3000-4000. The third Sunday ride is now changing to SDF! Meet at 10am at the entrance to SDF on Highland Way. From hwy 17, take the Summit Rd exit and head SE. Go 5 1/2 miles to the first stop sign, turn right and then bear left onto Highland Way. Go another 4 miles to the entrance. There will be lots of fun with 2 loops of super action: ) Location: SDF (Demo Forest) Contact Information: Dave Tripiet (408) 255-3464 tripiet@aol.com

**Tuesday, March 21, 2006. 4:30 PM 3rd Tuesday Alpine Road** (3:00) This year round ride has several options as starting places. First chance meets the #262 southbound @ 4:33 pm, #169 northbound also @ 4:33 at the California Ave caltrain station. RSVP a must if you plan on attending this ride, as the meeting places will vary depending on weather. From here we pedal through Stanford's "Professorville" on lightly traveled streets, over Old Page Mill rd, through Arastradero Preserve to The Portola Valley ranch.

# Calendar

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

**Saturday, March 25, 2006. 1:00 PM 4th Saturday Beginner's Clinic** (3:00) 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. RSVP is a must, as the meeting spot at the Preserve can vary with class focus. Location: Arastradero Preserve, Arastradero Road, Palo Alto, CA. Contact Information: Jim Sullivan 650-493-8774 ssulljm@juno.com

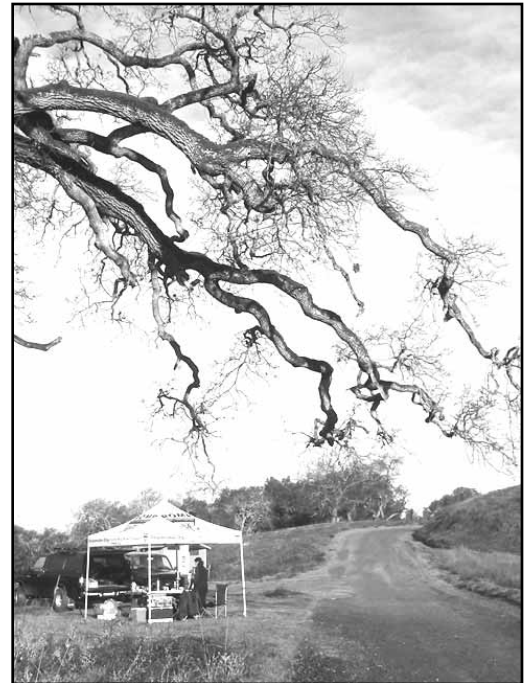
**Sunday, March 26, 2006. 10:00 AM Fourth Sunday BARF Ride** (5:00) C/25+/5000+ In the tradition of the Bay Area Riding Fanatics (BARF), the goal of this ride is to do 5000 feet of climbing. Meet at the corner of Stevens Canyon Rd and Redwood Gulch at 10:00am. The route will vary from month to month depending on interest. The general plan is to head up Table Mountain or Monte Bello and explore the many parks and trails off Skyline. Take 280 to Grant rd / Foothill Blvd. Go South Past the reservoir. Turn Right at Mt Eden and Stevens Canyon Stop sign. Go about one more mile to the stop sign at Redwood Gulch and Stevens Canyon. There is parking a little ways up Redwood Gulch. Location: Corner of Redwood Gulch and Stevens Canyon Rd, Cupertino, CA. Contact Information: Josh Moore (408) 420 7342 josh\_moore@comcast.net

## April Monthly Rides

**Sunday, April 02, 2006. 10:00AM First Sunday Social Ride at Saratoga Gap** (3:00) B/EASY/11/1500. See March 05, 2006 ride listing for details.

**Saturday, April 08, 2006. 2:30 PM Arastradero Second Saturday Social** (2:00) B/EASY/7/900. See Sunday, March 11, 2006 ride listing for details.

**Sunday, April 09, 2006. 9:30 AM 2nd Sunday Ride at Soquel Demo Forest** (4:00) C/INT/12-18/2500-3000. See March 12, 2006 ride listing for details



**Saturday, April 15, 2006. 10:00 AM 3rd Saturday NMBP ride** (4:00). See March 18, 2006 ride listing for details.

**Sunday, April 16, 2006. 10:00 AM 3rd Sunday Ride at SDF (Demo Forest)** (3:00) C-D/DIFF/15/3000 -- C-D/16-18/3000-4000. See March 19, 2006 ride listing for details.

**Tuesday, April 18, 2006. 4:30 PM 3rd Tuesday Alpine Road** (3:00). See March 21, 2006 ride listing for details.

**Saturday, April 22, 2006. 1:00 PM 4th Saturday Beginner's Clinic** (3:00) See March 25, 2006 ride listing for details.

**Sunday, April 23, 2006. 10:00 AM Fourth Sunday BARF Ride** (5:00) C/25+/5000+. See March 26, 2006 ride listing for details.

## March Trail Work

**Sunday, March 5 & March 26, 2006. 9:00 AM Water Dog Trail Work** (4:00) The NEW Trail Work Schedule For Water Dog Lake, in Belmont. The Land Manager is friendly and appreciative, it's close and easy to get to and we're building trails with our interests & needs in mind. It's a cozy place, but full of destination quality trails. Come out & help make this season's project a reality and then come out & ride it. We will be working on Sundays this year and will be meeting at 9:00AM. Please email Bery Stevens bt3mtbiker@earthlink.net to sign up for the date of your choice, or phone 650-364-6785, with questions or your eager desire to volunteer.

**Sunday, March 05, 2006. 9:00 AM Wilder Ranch Trailwork** (4:00) First Sunday Every Month. See trailworkers.com for more information.

**Saturday, March 11, 2006. 9:00 AM Henry Coe Trail Day** (4:00) We are looking for volunteers for another trail day at Henry Coe. We'll be meeting at Hunting Hollow at 9am. It happens rain or shine each second Saturday of the month through May. The exact trail project we choose depends upon conditions. There will be coffee and snacks served at the meet. Riding options will depend on the weather. Volunteers may ride to the trail project, take shuttles, and/or hike as conditions allow. Please dress appropriately. Wear clothes you do not mind getting dirty, because trail work is all about moving dirt, and it gets all over and in you, your shoes, and under your nails. Bring food and drink. No experience necessary. No matter what the weather looks like we bring a sweet attitude and wear warm smiles. Please let me know if you are coming. We have gloves if you need them. Location: Hunting Hollow Parking Lot Henry W. Coe State Park (See Web Link below for driving directions) Gilroy / Morgan Hill CA. Contact Information: Paul Nam 408 446-3745 vocinam@yahoo.com -- http://coepar.k.org/directionsse.html



SPEAK



BUILD



RESPECT



RIDE

## April Trail Work

**Saturday, April 1, 2006. 9:00 AM Table Mountain Trail Work** (4:00) After discussion with County Parks Trail Crew Lead Greg Bringelson, it was concluded that starting construction on the first brand new singletrack in 4,595 acre Coyote Harvey Bear County Park would be an ideal TCC project this winter or spring. Specialized is only minutes away from trailheads and has pledged to assist us as needed. Charles Jalgunas and I had considered proposing the bottom of Table Mountain Trail in Upper Stevens Creek Canyon as a good project as well. In the end Coyote Harvey Bear got the request for the TCC visit because of its ready access and its higher profile and need for new trail construction in keeping with existing plans in place for the park. However, that doesn't mean that we won't work on Table Mountain Trail. We will get something together. In fact, there is already a scheduled day for Table Mountain Trail: Location: Upper Stevens Creek End of Stevens Canyon Blvd. Cupertino CA. Contact Information: Paul Nam vocinam@yahoo.com

**Sunday, April 2, 2006. 09:00 AM Wilder Ranch Trailwork** (4:00) First Sunday Every Month. See trailworkers.com for more information.

**Saturday, April 8, 2006. 09:00 AM Henry Coe Trail Day** (4:00) – see March 11, 2006 trail work listing for details.

**Saturday, April 16 & April 30, 2006. Water Dog Trail Work** (4:00) The NEW Trail Work Schedule For Water Dog Lake, in Belmont. See March 4, 2006 trail work listing for details.

## Special Events

**Saturday, March 25, 2006. Corral Hollow Downhill Race.** Romp is stepping up to be a sponsor of this event! Formerly Groovy Gravity Games, the CHDH is a great downhill race and a local tradition. This event has a wonderful grassroots vibe. More info about this year's event available at <http://www.ridesfo.com/servlet/Page?template=chdh>. If you want to volunteer, contact me (vicepresident@romp.org) or Phil Segura (Phil@ridesfo.com). We can add you to the volunteer Evite. You can also call me at (510) 744-9350. Location: Carnegie SVRA Livermore CA. Contact Information: Scott Robinson, (510) 744-9350, vicepresident@romp.org.

**Saturday, April 1, 2006. 9:00AM-3:00PM ROMP Picnic** Twin Pines Park, Belmont  
9:00 - Intermediate ride C/Int/2500/20 starts through Water Dog Park. 10:00am - Social paced ride B/Int/1800/15 starts through Water Dog Park. 12:00pm - Free lunch for members (membership \$20, Family \$25). 1:30pm - Fun and Games, Awards recognition

**Sunday, April 30 2006. Swap meet at Cupertino Bike Shop.** Each year ROMP hosts a swap meet. The swap meet is a fund-raiser for ROMP and a place where cyclists can purchase road and mountain bike parts, tools, frames, complete bikes, clothing and accessories. Per-person admission charge is minimal. The meet is held behind the Cupertino Bike Shop, 10493 S. De Anza Blvd. (two blocks south of Stevens Creek Blvd.). Call 408-255-2217 for prices on swap spaces. Volunteers are required from 7:00am to 4:00pm. Contact swap@romp.org if you wish to volunteer for this event. Donations of items for ROMP to sell at the Swap Meet are welcome. Now's a good time to clear out your garage and help ROMP. Contact swap@romp.org if you have any donations to give to ROMP for sale at the Swap Meet. You can have your own swap meet table by contacting Cupertino bikes 408 255-2217 or [www.cupertinobike.com](http://www.cupertinobike.com) ROMP makes their money on the # of swap meet selling tables there are. So the more we can list that Cupertino Bikes is open to other business tables the better for us. Location: Cupertino Bike Shop 10493 S De Anza Blvd Cupertino CA.

## Social Events

**Saturday, March 11 & April 08, 2006. 10:00 AM Bike Repair for the Community** (4:00) Learn to repair bikes and contribute to the community. Volunteers work on donated bikes, with the help and guidance of skilled mechanics. Tools and stands are available, but bring your own if possible. The bikes are then given away to needy children and adults regularly through various help organizations. No Event in December. Event starts at 9:00 during daylight savings time. More Information. Location: Behind BTN Automotive 2566 Leghorn Ave, between Rengstorff and San Antonio Mountain View CA. Contact Information: Josh Moore 408 420 7342 [josh\\_moore@comcast.net](mailto:josh_moore@comcast.net).

**Saturday, March 25 & April 22, 2006. 12:00 AM Basic Fixit Class** (1:00) The fixit clinic is for current romp members only, membership forms available at clinic for easy sign up. Beginner ride at 1:00 is open to the general public. RSVP is a must due to max class size limit. This hands on fixit class will go over the basic needs for preventative maintenance and trails repair of your mt bike. Fix a flat, adjust your derrailleurs, straighten a wheel, and anything else bike related that will get you back on the trail. Location: Arastradero OSP Parking lot Arastradero Rd Palo Alto CA. Contact Information: Jim Sullivan 650-493-8774 [ssulljm@juno.com](mailto:ssulljm@juno.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 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.

### 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.

# HUGE Bike Swap Meet

CUPERTINO BIKE SHOP  
ROMP BIKE SWAP MEET

New and used road, mountain bikes, & cruisers  
parts, clothing, accessories, frames and tools

Sunday, April 30, 2006

10am-4pm Admission \$2.00

**\$80** Space/Table   **\$60** Space only

*Cupertino*  
BIKE SHOP



Call to reserve your space

**(408) 255-2217**

Register on-line at: [www.cupertinobike.com](http://www.cupertinobike.com)

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## Other Cycling Organizations

**Access 4 Bikes**   [access4bikes.com](http://access4bikes.com)  
PO Box 526, Pt. Reyes Station, CA 94956

**Bay Area Velo Girls**  
650-347-9752   [velogirls.com](http://velogirls.com)

**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   [btceastbay.org](http://btceastbay.org)

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

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

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

**Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz (MBoSC)**  
[president@mbosc.org](mailto:president@mbosc.org)   [mbosc.org](http://mbosc.org)

**Northern California Mountain Biking Association (NorCaMBA)**  
[norcamba.org](mailto:norcamba.org)   [suefry@norcamba.org](mailto:suefry@norcamba.org)

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

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

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

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

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

## Mountain Cyclist

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

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

◇ [newsletter@romp.org](mailto:newsletter@romp.org)

Send ride listings to the club web master

◇ Tom Oshima  
[webmaster@romp.org](mailto:webmaster@romp.org)

## Newsletter Mailing Party

This fun is repeated bi-monthly. If you would like to help next time (and eat some pizza and talk bikes at the same time), contact Glenn Wegner 408-257-8284 [newsmailing@romp.org](mailto:newsmailing@romp.org)



(Continued from page 5)

to take place on very short notice. Special thanks go to Supervising Ranger Michael Ferry and Maintenance Chief Randy Neufeld. Two key volunteers who facilitated the event, Uniformed PRA Volunteer Rob Glover, and ROMP member Phillip Strenfel deserve special recognition. Acknowledgement of Specialized Bicycles for their continued dedication to mountain bike advocacy around the world and locally must be made. In particular, Ariadne Scott is deserving of the highest accolades. Thanks R! Furthermore the TCCs Nat and Rachael Lopes, Chris Bernhart and Jill Van Winkle deserve praise. Also, IMBA itself and Aaryn Kaye in Boulder, CO earn a lot of credit.

Finally, thanks to all who participated including volunteers from ROMP, Pine Ridge Association, San Martin Horsemen's Association, Team Wrongway, IMBA's membership rolls, assorted trail folk, and all who braved the elements, went above and beyond, and made the event a safe and enjoyable one.

Will there be another Trail Care Crew visit in 07? There's a rumor that we could finally be building new singletrack in Harvey Bear. If it happens, don't miss it!

## 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.

(Continued from page 4)

Some cycling advocates whom I admire for their perseverance and dedication over the years have told me that they are not popular with land managers. These advocates' commitment to sustainable responsible trail use, knowledge of the bay area's trail systems and geology, and acquaintance with land managers are enviable. They really care and it shows in their passion and perseverance. Some of these unpopular advocates have offended land managers with words or actions in the past, and have even broken the law. More than a decade has passed, and I would hope that many years of responsible behavior would put the advocates' mistakes behind them, and that they would be shown the respect they deserve.

There are some bad cyclists out there who may not be worthy of a second or third chance. There are riders who believe that since a trail was legal ten years ago, it should continue to be legal. They believe riding is a right, not a privilege. They do not do trail work, nor habitat restoration. They yell at you when you are in the way of their downhill run, despite the fact that uphill has the right of way. They ride off when a scared horse bucks the rider on an illegal trail, because not getting caught is more important than another human's and an animal's safety. They are not courteous when they encounter other users on the trail. These riders jeopardize trail access for everybody. You know who you are. Cut it out. If you know people like this, tell them why you won't act that way. Responsibility starts with you.



Forgiveness is a two way street. We mountain bikers are guilty of holding a grudge as well. Far too many of us feel that our input is not listened to. We recall incidents that happened last decade, and assume that land managers are still acting the same way. I hope that all of us can clean the slate, communicate effectively, and work together.

Many in our country's leadership have made mistakes, and possibly broken laws, too. Tom DeLay, Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton, and John F Kennedy come to mind. I find it much easier to forgive those whose views are closer to my own. Is it possible that we mountain bikers disagree with decisions that are in line with land managers' missions, and continue to resent it? Is it possible that our public servants' personal views are interfering with their ability to forgive? Is it time for all of us to put aside our personal views, and work together towards a sustainable trail system to be enjoyed by all, on a mode of transportation of our choosing?

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

**Hats**

\$10



**T-Shirts**

Cotton: \$15  
Wicking: \$30



**Jersey Sale!**

Jerseys: \$55 + \$2 shipping

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

To order, fill out the following:

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

Item	Size	Fabric	Qty.	Subtotal
Order total :				
Shipping \$2 e.a.:				
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Campbell CA 95009-1723

**Romp Directory**

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

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National Mtn Bike Patrol	Dave Wieland	408-371-2729	nmbp@romp.org
Web Master	Tom Osima		webmaster@romp.org



**ROMP Monthly Meetings**

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. ACKNOWLEDGE, agree, and represent that I understand the nature of Bicycling Activities and that I am qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate in such Activity. I further acknowledge that the Activity will be conducted over public roads and facilities open to the public during the Activity and upon which the hazards of traveling are to be expected. I further agree and warrant that if at any time I believe conditions to be unsafe, I will immediately discontinue further participation in the Activity.

2. FULLY UNDERSTAND that:(a)BICYCLING ACTIVITIES INVOLVE RISKS AND DANGERS OF SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, INCLUDING PERMANENT DISABILITY, PARALYSIS, AND DEATH ("RISKS"); (b)these Risks and dangers may be caused by my own actions or inactions, the actions or inactions of others participating in the Activity, the condition in which the Activity takes place, or THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" NAMED BELOW; (c)there may be OTHER RISKS AND SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LOSSES either not known to me or not readily foreseeable at this time; and I FULLY ACCEPT AND ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS AND ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOSSES, COSTS, AND DAMAGES I incur as a result of my participation or that of the minor in the Activity.

3. HEREBY RELEASE, DISCHARGE, AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the Club, the LAB, their respective administrators, directors, agents, officers, members, volunteers, and employees, other participants, any sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises on which the Activity takes place, (each considered one of the "RELEASEES" herein) FROM ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS, DEMANDS, LOSSES, OR DAMAGES ON MY ACCOUNT CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE "RELEASEES" OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING NEGLIGENT RESCUE OPERATIONS; AND I FURTHER AGREE that if, despite this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT I, or anyone on my behalf, makes a claim against any of the RELEASEES, I WILL INDEMNIFY, SAVE, AND HOLD HARMLESS EACH OF THE Releasees from any litigation expenses, attorney fees, loss, liability, damage, or cost which any may incur as the result of such claim.

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

X \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_

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

### FOR MINORS ONLY COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

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

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

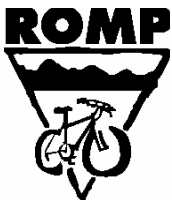
X \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Send this form with check payable to

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



Responsible Organized Mountain Pedalers

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