

CORBA'S FAT TIRE FEST

RIDE • EAT • WIN

October 14, 2006

Malibu Creek

State Park

- **Win bikes and other great prizes**
- **Vendor booths, bike demos and more!**
- **Fun for the whole family**
- **Come out to support trail access**
- **Sign up early and get free raffle tickets**
- **Check our website for special guests, events and more!**

www.corbamt.com
educate. inform. preserve.



CORBA Information

818-773-3555
info@corbamt.com
www.corbamt.com

Membership Services

Greg Scarich
310-374-7552
membership@corbamt.com

Terra Times Newsletter

David Ross
mtbross@pacbell.net

Trail Building & Maintenance

Hans Keifer
818-773-3555
trailwork@corbamt.com

Youth Adventures

Holly Harman
818-882-2839
hollytfc@socal.rr.com

Danny Ybarra
ssc@oco.net

Skills Classes

Mark Langton
805-558-1606
markmtb@adelphia.net

Fun Rides

South Bay Mountain
Bike Club
Louisa Bonnie
mtbike4@earthlink.net
www.sbmbc.com

GENERAL INFORMATION

California Department
of Parks & Recreation
818-880-0350
dpree@parks.ca.gov
Fire Closure Info
805-488-8147

The message changes every
day at 2 p.m. It is illegal to
ride in the parks when they
are closed due to high fire
danger.

CORBA is committed to:

1. Maintaining access to and gaining access to trails in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas, through education, information and preservation.
2. Educating mountain bicyclists in the safe and appropriate use of mountain bikes.
3. Contributing to the building and maintaining of riding areas in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas.

National Park Service
805-370-2300
www.nps.gov/samo

Santa Monica
Mountains Conservancy
310-589-3200
www.smmc.ca.gov

Conejo Open Space
Conservation Agency
805-495-6471
Ranger office 805-381-2741
www.cosf.org

Mountain Bike Unit
Terry Harman
818-882-2839
terhol@gte.net

International Mountain
Bicycle Association
(headquarters)
303-545-9011
imba@aol.com
local rep Jim Hasenauer
818-704-7396
imbajim@aol.com
www.imba.com

TERRA TIMES

The official publication of the Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association

Spring 2006

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FAT TIRE FEST
10.14.06



CONCERNED OFF-ROAD BICYCLISTS ASSOCIATION

CORBA is committed to gaining and maintaining mountain bike access to trails in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas through education, information and preservation

Hans Keifer: CORBA's New Trail Crew Leader

After 10 years serving as CORBA's Trail Crew Leader, Rich Pinder retired from the post leaving big shoes to fill. CORBA board member Hans Keifer stepped up to fill the vacancy, and he is the perfect person to do it.

Anyone who has volunteered for trail work over the years has likely met and worked with Hans. In addition to his CORBA Board of Directors position, Hans has organized and managed CORBA's Fat Tire Fest for the past few years with great success.

We thought you might like to learn more about Hans, so I had a conversation with him in February as he was about to dig in to his new role (sorry...couldn't resist).

"MAINTAINING EXISTING TRAILS IS Terra Times: How long have you been doing trail work?

REWARDING. BUT BUILDING A Hans Keifer: I started working with the Mount Wilson Bicycling Association (MWBA) in '92. I worked with them mainly on trails in the Angeles National Forest until 2004 when they disbanded the organization.
TRAIL THAT YOU KNOW WILL BE THERE FOR GENERATIONS OF TRAIL USERS TO ENJOY IS THE MOST SATISFYING!" TT: Why did you start doing trail work?

HK: One day not long after I got into mountain biking, I was riding with some friends on a trail that was very overgrown. We were getting bushwhacked to the point that the three of us were bleeding. One of the guys I was riding with said "Someone should do something about this trail" I said "Yeah maybe we should!" Of course that got a good laugh out of them.

Keifer, continues on page 2



POKER RIDE
RAFFLE



FOOD



Keifer continued from page 1

Shortly after that ride we went to the MWBA's Pancake breakfast. This was their annual fundraiser. At that event they asked for riders to come out and help with trail maintenance. I attended the next MWBA trail day. I loved it and became a regular volunteer.

TT: How long have you been working with the CORBA Trail Crew?

HK: I joined the CORBA Board of Directors in 2003 and started working with the Trail Crew at the same time.

TT: What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment working on the trails?

HK: I would have to say that helping the MWBA to build the Ken Burton trail in the Angeles National Forest was the most rewarding project I have worked on. Maintaining existing trails is rewarding. But building a trail that you know will be there for generations of trail users to enjoy is the most satisfying!

TT: What are some of the locations you have done trail work at?

HK: I have done lots of trail work in the Angeles Forest, Verdugo Hills, Santa Monica Mountains, and the San Juan Trail in the OC. And one year a bunch of us from the MWBA went to the Crested Butte Fat Tire fest in Crested Butte Colorado. We got together with some of the locals and worked on the 401 trail.

TT: Do you plan to change anything

with the CORBA Trail Crew.

HK:

1. We purchased a cargo trailer to carry all the Trail Crew tools.

2. I have added a few tools to the tool chest.

3. I am considering a Bob trailer or two. Our friends on the Angeles Bike Patrol are using these and are very happy with them. They are able to tow their tools into remote locations to work on the trails. Think about it. You can get in a ride and do trail work at the same time!

4. I would like to see more technical trails. Technical trails are ridden at slower speeds. Slower speeds can decrease the chance of user conflicts.

TT: What are your goals for the CORBA Trail Crew?

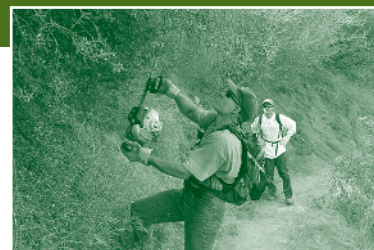
HK: It has always been my goal to get more people out to do trail work. Mountain bikers face a lot of opposition. If we are out there in force building and maintaining trails for all trail users to

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I SAID "YEAH MAYBE WE SHOULD!"

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enjoy, we can decrease that opposition. I plan to recruit and train if needed at least five trail crew sub leaders. And I want to see more trails built. As the population of the Los Angeles area grows so does the number of trail users. We need more trails to accommodate them.

TT: Is there anything else you would like to say to the CORBA members?

HK: I would like to thank everyone that came out for trail work in 2005. We had some great work days with huge turnouts. Let's keep that momentum going in 2006! If everyone can just

come out once a year, we could get a lot done. So come on out. And bring a friend or two with you. It really can make a difference and be a lot of fun too.

If you are interested in helping out with the Trail Crew come on out to our next work day or contact trailwork@corbambt.com.

Frank Padilla, Jr. Retires from State Parks

By Rich Pinder and Kurt Loheit

After a career that far exceeds the history of CORBA, an era has come to conclusion at State Parks; Superintendent Frank Padilla, Jr. has retired. It is uncommon to find the enthusiasm and dedication that defines Frank. While his contributions are many, it is his unwavering support for volunteers that clearly stands out. Frank did not discriminate when it came to accepting volunteers. Everyone was welcome. Whether it was volunteer patrols, trail maintenance, fire crews, or any number of opportunities, Frank would spend the extra time and effort to see that someone with an interest in the parks was able to contribute.



This was evident by his acceptance of CORBA's offerings of trail maintenance, Youth Adventures, and the early years of the MBU. Year after year, Frank led the effort to encourage volunteers by offering

up free, in-depth training classes. These ranged from introductory presentations for new volunteers to comprehensive volunteer leader training. He did not hesitate to engage other agencies when required. Working with CORBA's very own Kurt Loheit, their training days were documented in a comprehensive Basic Trail Maintenance Manual. Together, Frank and Kurt brought this education around the State.

Frank also taught multi-week classes for State Park rangers from all over California. With Frank's guidance, CORBA worked with professional crews to build the technical part of the Tapia Spur and Guadalupe reroutes.



CORBA sponsored a Fun Ride and BBQ to honor Frank. The event was organized by CORBA Board member, Louisa Bonnie. CORBA co-founder Mark Langton led 40+ riders on the fun ride through Tapia and Malibu Creek State Parks. After the ride, everyone enjoyed a great meal, followed by several heartfelt speeches of appreciation for Frank.

These are just two of the many projects Frank and CORBA worked on together.

In Frank's supervising role within the State Parks, he was always an active mentor to a staff eager to learn. Frank always ran a 'tight ship,' and could occasionally come off a bit like a military drill sergeant to his seasonal and permanent staff. But the training they received was first rate, and paid off in the end. Whenever you worked with them you were assured you'd be part of a serious trail building effort.

CORBA was happily there when a new volunteer named Jean came into his life. A recent transplant to Southern California, she came out for one of the annual State Trail Days – and it was love at first sight!

Over the past several years, Frank developed a passion for magic. Many of his classes begin (or end) with some trick, and adding another dimension of approachability that seems to characterize Frank. Although his time at State Parks has drawn to a close, we hardly expect his presence to disappear. It would not be unexpected if he were to show up at one of many volunteer events in the Santa Monica Mountains. More importantly, his influence will continue to thrive through the countless volunteers he has mentored.

A well deserved "Thanks Frank!" from everyone at CORBA, and anyone who has had the opportunity to experience the Santa Monica Mountains. You are as much a part of the mountains as anyone could hope to be

CORBA Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone (h) _____ (w) _____

E-mail _____

____ I'd like to lend a hand. Contact me about volunteer opportunities.

CORBA is a tax exempt "501(c)(3)" organization. Your donation to CORBA is tax deductible. Your dues will be used to promote trail access and other interests of mountain bicyclists in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas.

Annual Membership ___New ___Renewal \$ 25.00

___CORBA Bike Bell(s) @ \$5 ea. _____

___CORBA T-Shirt(s) @ \$15 ea (Size _____) _____

I'd like to do more to keep trails open _____

with an additional donation of \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to CORBA and mail to: CORBA, P.O. Box 57576, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413.

Tell a friend. Send CORBA information to: _____

Thank you! Welcome to CORBA.

How Low Can You Go?

Weight distribution plays a big part on how your bike handles, especially under braking.

When you put your brakes on, your weight naturally gets pitched forward — this is because at speed, you and the bike are carrying momentum. But since the bike is lighter than you and it has the brakes, it's naturally going to slow down faster than your body. In other words, your body carries more inertia than the bike, so it takes more force to slow it down.

The higher your upper body, the more your weight carries toward the front of the bike. This is what gives you that "pitching over the handlebar" feeling when you hit the brakes, especially on a steep downhill. To compensate, you need to move your upper body down toward the bike under braking. You

also need to shift your lower body weight rearward so that your thighs are touching the outside of the rear portion of the saddle. This not only helps you find the right position, but also puts your upper body's weight in the middle of the bike, helping to keep it from pitching forward. When you bend your upper body, don't forget to bend your elbows as well. If you put your brakes on and your arms are straight, you're not going to be able to get your body low enough to compensate for your weight being pitched forward under braking.

To learn more about this and other fundamental mountain bike techniques, come to CORBA's FREE Introduction to Mountain Bike Skills class, held the first Saturday of every month at Malibu Creek State Park. For

more information, go to www.corbambt.com and click on Skills Classes, and for more information on the instructor, Mark Langton, go to www.mountainbikeskills.com.



Volunteers Needed For CORBA Fat Tire Fest

The Los Angeles area mountain biking community and CORBA had an incredible Fat Tire Fest in 2005. An unprecedented 400 participants attended the event! Looking ahead to October 2006, the goal for the Festival is to increase participation and fun factor. With that in mind, CORBA is looking for volunteers to help with the coordination of the upcoming 2006 CORBA Fat Tire Fest Saturday, October 14th at Malibu Creek State Park.

Raffle Prizes:

Contacting bike shops, bike companies/manufacturers to request contributions of bikes, bike equipment, and accessories for the raffle.

Celebrity Riders:

Invite celebrity pro riders and serve as their host at the event. Celebrity pro riders can lead a ride, conduct a clinic or demonstration with Mark Langton.

PR/Media Coordinator:

Contact media, write articles, set up interviews, submit announcements to meet print and calendar deadlines.

Exhibitors:

Contact and invite shops/organizations to have a booth at the FTF. Exhibiting is free with donation to CORBA or raffle.

Poker Ride:

Recruit poker ride station volunteers, printing of maps/rules/cards, poker course set-up the day before the event.

The Log Pull Contest:

Coordinate with Board Member on set-up, equipment, how to conduct contest and the winner's prize.

Fat Tire Fest Flyer/Poster distribution:

Distribute posters by September 14th

to local bike shops, LA area stores, trail heads and other places mountain bikes will see them.

Food:

Assistants to work on food service set-up, serving and taking lunch tickets. Organize ordering CORBA cakes and picking them up the day of the event.

Parking:

Manage and monitor on-site parking.

Photographers:

To shoot photos at the event.

If you interested in volunteering, please contact the Fat Tire Fest Coordinator, Louisa Bonnie: mtbike4@earthlink.net

Deputy Secretary of the Interior Visits Southern California

United States Interior Deputy Secretary Lynn Scarlett got a firsthand look at mountain bike issues over the New Year's weekend at the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. Scarlett was hosted by CORBA President Jeff Klingler, NPS

Superintendent Woody Smeck, IMBA Executive Director Mike Van Abel, IMBA's Jim Hasenauer, and Chris Orr, president of the Santa Barbara Mountain Bike Trail Volunteers (SBMBTV). Rain prevented a planned up-close look at the trails, but the

group discussed many issues and wrapped up with a tour of the Giant Bicycle facility. A big thanks to Giant Bicycles and IMBA for supporting Scarlett's visit.