



Rancho Simi Trail Blazers

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation



WOOD RANCH/MADERA ROAD

The Wood Ranch was originally purchased from the Simi Land and Development Company by Charles B. McCoy. Later, it became the Taylor Ranch and subsequently was purchased by A.G. Wood. At that time, the road running south from Los Angeles Avenue to the ranch was called Kujawsky Road.

Nate Kujawsky, for which the road was named, had long since changed his last name to "Kern". Following the death of A.G. Wood, Mrs. Wood petitioned the County of Ventura to change the name to "Madera Road". "Madera" means "wood" in Spanish and the Woods had named their place "Madera Ranch".

I remember an arched iron entryway to the ranch which contained the name "Madera Ranch". At some point it began to be referred to as the Wood Ranch.

Madera Road was extended to the Conejo Valley as a shorter way than the old route through the Tierra Rejada Valley to Santa Rosa Road and over the Norwegian Grade.

The extension of Madera Road to connect with Olsen Road divided the ranch into a northern part and a southern part. When the ranch was sold for development in the late-1970s, the north ranch, including Mt. McCoy and the site of the Presidential Library, was sold off separately.

Anyway – that's how we came to have a "Madera Road" and a Wood Ranch development.

Mike Kuhn



RSTB LOGO T-SHIRTS

Are your old logo T-shirts worn out?

We still have short sleeve, long sleeve, and sweat shirts in assorted sizes and colors. Prices are:

short sleeve \$12
long sleeve \$14
sweat shirt \$18



Please call Marty if you'd like to place an order: 805-526-4414.

EL PORTEZUELO

The 1834 report on the Santa Barbara Presidio District calls the road out of Simi Valley due west of the Simi Adobe *El Portezuelo*. The road leads to a small plain known as *Tierra Rajada*. *El Portezuelo* means "narrow pass".

While the Tierra Rejada Road through the pass between Simi and the Tierra Rejada valleys is now quite wide, it is obvious from the existing topography that the route through the pass was widened from what must have been a narrow passageway. The name, *El Portezuelo*, seems appropriate for the time.

Mike Kuhn

RSTB CLUB MEETING

This month's club meeting will be held at the Community Center

Room B-1
1692 Sycamore Drive
at 7:00 PM
on
July 19, 2006



Welcome!

**Madeline Hartley
Linda Barry**

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 3rd – 6th

Glen Aulin – Tuolumne Meadows Backpack Trip

This very special event is limited to *Trailblazer members only*. Space is limited. Please **RSVP before July 21st**.

SEPTEMBER 9th

Matilija Creek Backpack Trip

6 MRT - Moderate (500' elevation gain)

SEPTEMBER 16th

Arroyo Simi Cleanup

More information coming soon...

OCTOBER 14th

Santa Cruz Island

More information coming soon...

NOVEMBER 4th

Mt. San Antonio Ski Hut

More information coming soon...

More information on these events can be found at

<http://simitrailblazers.com>

To make reservations, please email

Mark Gilmore at

markinthepark@sbcglobal.net

TRAIL SAFETY TIPS



Know where you are going. Perhaps you have done the hike before. If not, get a map.



Bring more water than you will think you need given weather conditions and some snack food.



Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return. Carry through.



Do not approach wildlife. Learn to recognize rattlesnakes and never try to handle them.



Don't hike alone. Stay together. If you get separated, those in the lead should stop at any fork in the trail so those behind don't go off in a different direction.



Do not mix alcoholic beverages with hiking. Your safety depends on you keeping alert.



Stay on the trail. If you are injured or incapacitated, you will be found. If you are incapacitated while off the trail, it can be life threatening.



Wear stout footwear – preferably with good ankle support. Footwear should have good tread, which will reduce the risk of falling.



Dress appropriately for the weather – light clothing if it is warm, warm clothing if it is cold or may become so. Wear a hat for protection from the sun or to keep warm. Dark glasses should be worn during the day to protect your eyes from ultraviolet radiation and to protect your eyes from protruding branches.



Learn to recognize poison oak – even without leaves (wintertime) – and avoid it. If you have been hiking where your clothing or your dog may have come in contact with it, wash your clothing or your dog after the hike. The contact dermatitis from poison oak can be very unpleasant for several weeks.



Carry a cell phone with you.



Be aware that you may be sharing the trail with other hikers, bikers and horses. Be alert.



Wear sunscreen between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Long-sleeved shirts can help reduce sun-damage to your skin.



Keep dogs on leashes. This will keep other hikers, bike riders, people on horses and other dogs safe.



Small children should remain close to an adult and should be discouraged from running as much as possible. (Mountain lions tend to be far more interested in children than adults, and running can trigger the prey instinct in large cats.)



Do not overexert yourself. Rest if tired and know when to turn around.

YOSEMITE VALLEY FLOWERS



Purple Milkweed
(*Asclepias cordifolia*)



Pacific Stonecrop
(*Sedum spathulifolium*)



Dudleya
(*Dudleya sheldoni*)



Rose-colored Shin-Leaf
(*Pyrola picta*)



Seep Spring Monkey Flower
(*Mimulus Guttatus*)

FLOWERS FROM LATIGO CANYON



Prickly Poppy
(*Argemone munita*)



Sticky Phacelia
(*Phacelia viscida*)



Purple Clarkia
(*Clarkia purpurea ssp. purpurea*)



Canchalagua
(*Centaurium venustum*)



Large-flowered Phacelia
(*Phacelia grandiflora*)



RSTB Calendar

July 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Switzer Falls See Schedule
2 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule	3	4 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule	5 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kelli Ham	6 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule	7	8 Romero Canyon See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Rafael Zepeda
9 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule	10	11 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Carrie McCline	12	13 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule	14 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Mike Kuhn	15 China Flat to Simi Peak See Schedule
16 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Bruce Severy Nicholas Carroll	17	18 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Maurice Dunmore	19 RSTB Meeting See Page 1	20 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule	21	22 Solstice Canyon See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Judi Sevcik Liz Williams
23 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule	24	25 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule	26	27 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule	28	29 Upper Zuma See Schedule
30 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule	31 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Scott Stewart					



Rancho Simi Trail Blazers

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation

Hiking Schedule



REGULARLY SCHEDULED HIKES

(Rain cancels – No hikes on holidays)

Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak

Meet 5pm at Rocky Peak trailhead at the end of Rocky Peak Rd off Santa Susana Pass. (Strenuous, 4.8 MRT)

Tuesday Evening - Long Canyon

Meet at 6:30pm in Long Canyon parking lot. Directions: Take First Street South. Continue when the road's name changes to Long Canyon Road. The parking lot is at the intersection of Long Canyon Road and Wood Ranch Pkwy. (Moderate, 3.0 MRT)

Thursday Evening - The Chumash Trail

Meet at 6pm at Chumash trailhead. Directions - take 118 Fwy to Yosemite exit. Go north on Yosemite, turn right on Flanagan Dr. Trailhead is at the end of Flanagan Dr. (Strenuous, 5.2 MRT)

JULY HIKES

July 1st - Switzer Falls**

4.5 MRT - Moderate (600' elevation gain) Waterfalls, small cascades, lovely pools, wooded streamside trail, and deep canyons. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water, a snack and bug juice. Wear boots.

July 8th - Romero Canyon - Santa Barbara**

10.2 MRT figure eight loop - Moderate to Strenuous (2,275' elevation gain)

Beautiful and shady canyon with a small creek. Great views of the Channel Islands, Santa Barbara and the coast from Point Mugu to Goleta. The summit is one of the highest elevations of any of the trails in the front country of the Santa Ynez Mountains. Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 3 - 4 quarts of water, a snack and bug juice. Wear sturdy boots.

July 15th - Simi Peak via China Flat

Strenuous, approx. 6 MRT with 1000' elevation gain. Bring two quarts of water and a snack, wear boots. Directions: take 101 Fwy to Lindero Canyon. Follow Lindero Canyon to King James Court. Park on one of the side streets near the arroyo, just east of King James Court. Meet at 8 AM near the arroyo/trailhead.

July 22nd - Solstice Canyon Loop**

3 MRT - Easy (500' elevation gain) Beautiful creek, 30 ft waterfall, mysterious ruins, hidden statue, and ocean views. Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite, at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water, a snack and bug juice. Wear boots.

July 29th - Upper Zuma Canyon**

Moderate, approx 5 MRT. Hike down into Upper Zuma Canyon. Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water and a snack. Wear boots.

** Not within the jurisdiction of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District.



No dogs allowed on trail(s).

For more information on hikes/work parties, contact the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District at 805-584-4400.

Special Note: - On all hikes and work parties, bring water and wear lug-soled boots.

<http://www.simitrailblazers.com>

LANCHO SIMI TRAIL BLAZERS

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation

Executive Chair:	Mike Kuhn	HM (805) 583-2345	hannahmike@adelphia.net
Treasurer:	Peter Ely	HM (805) 523-1409	
Park District Liaison:	Colleen Janssen	WK (805) 584-4453	volunteers@rsrpd.us
Work Parties Chair:		*** OPEN ***	
Hiking Chair:	Mark Gilmore	HM (805) 529-5581	markinthepark@sbcglobal.net
Vice Hiking Chair:	John Sabol	HM (805) 583-2541	jtsabol@sbcglobal.net
Website:	Mark Gilmore	HM (805) 529-5581	markinthepark@sbcglobal.net
Ways & Means Chair:	Marty Richards	HM (805) 526-4414	
Publicity Chair:	Judi Sevcik	HM (805) 581-4340	judisevcik@earthlink.net
Newsletter Editor:	Arlene Altshuler	HM (805) 581-9735	arlene.altshuler@mindbox.com

-----cut out and return with your payment-----

MEMBERSHIP

Please enroll me as a New () or Renewing () member of the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers for the annual donation fee of:

Single.....\$10

Family..... \$15

Name(s) _____ Birth Mo. ____ Day ____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone wk/hm _____

How did you find out about the RSTB _____

Please make out tax deductible member dues check for the year to:

“Rancho Simi Foundation” mail it to “RSTB, P.O. Box 630445, Simi Valley, Ca 93063-0399

Please list any extra names and birthdays of more than one member (Month & Day Only)



U.S. Postage

RSTB

P.O. Box 630445

Simi Valley, CA 93063-0399