

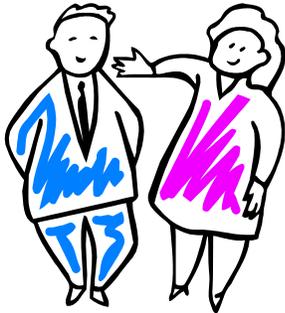


Rancho Simi Trail Blazers

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation



Welcome New Members!



**Karen Jackson
James Hanley**

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 as follows:

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



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



Angel's Landing – Zion

RSTB CLUB MEETING

This month's club meeting will be held at the Community Center, Room B-1
1692 Sycamore Drive
7:00 PM
September 16, 2009

Zion and Bryce Canyon Awesome September Trip Planned

A very special trip to Zion National Park and Bryce Canyon National Park is planned from September 21-27th to experience some of the very best scenery and hiking in the southwest. This trip is for the entire family. You may join in on the planned hikes or simply enjoy the sights. We will be camping in Zion at the Watchman Campground, and this is the view you see when you peek out of your tent in the morning:



Space is limited, and interested Trailblazer members will need to reserve their spot by September 14th. A wealth of information is available on the website about both Parks, so please check there for the latest details. Come along and see for yourself! Zion and Bryce Canyon have so much to offer: deep blue skies, stunning vistas and magnificent formations are around every corner in the Utah canyons. To give you a preview, some pictures from last year's trip are on the website at www.simitrailblazers.com/pix/zion08/.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please see page 5 for more information, and visit the website for details on any of the following hikes and events.

**September 5th
Sycamore Canyon Shuttle***
8 Miles - Moderate one way (1200' elevation loss)

**September 12th
Camp Three Falls to Lilly Meadows***
6 MRT - Moderate (1,075' elevation gain)

**September 16th
Club Meeting**

**September 19th
Work Party: California Coastal Cleanup Day – Simi Arroyo**
Meet at Royal and Erringer

**September 21st - 27th
Zion National Park & Bryce Canyon National Park***
Reservations required

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

More information on these events can be found at

<http://simitrailblazers.com>

For trips that require reservations, please email Mark Gilmore at markinthepark@sbcglobal.net

PICTOGRAPHS OF RIDERS ON HORSEBACK

An unusual Chumash pictograph site in the Santa Monica Mountains is focused on four riders on horses and/or mules. It is formally known as LAn-717 and is one of the most interesting and brightest rock art sites in the mountain range.

An academic analysis of the site by Gregory A. Reinhardt, entitled "Pictographs with a Historic Component: LAn-717, A Los Angeles County Rock Art Site," appears in *Messages from the Past: Studies in California Rock Art*, Monograph XX, Institute of Archaeology, University of California, Los Angeles, n.d.

The panel is done almost entirely in red pigment. The riders are arranged in a line - one after the other as though they represent a particular group of equestrians and a particular event. Because of the consistency of style that is shared by each image, it obvious that all four figures were painted by the same individual. The horses are accurately depicted, as are the riders in relationship to the horses. The artist, then, would appear to be an eye witness - not someone simply depicting an event passed by word of mouth. At least three groups of ritualistic figures seem to face the equestrians from below - in awe of what they see. The panel is focused on the riders as though their passage represents a major event in the life of the Chumash observers. The panel, at least most of it, was certainly composed during the historic period. The composition may celebrate the first encounter with people of western European culture and the horse or mule. So, who do the equestrians represent?

Most likely the rock art panel depicts

one of the Portola expeditions, i.e., of 1769 or 1770. Portola's first expedition left San Diego in early summer of 1769 to meet with the packetboat San Antonio at Monterey Bay. The land force, which included Fray Junipero Serra, passed north of the rock art site on August 10, 1769, and sent scouts south to explore for a possible coastal route to Monterey.

Portola missed the San Antonio, which did land at Point Conception about 125 miles west of the Malibu on its return voyage. They inquired about the Portola expedition and were informed through gestures about how the expedition had passed through the area on horseback going north and then about their return. The Indians acted out the scene by sitting astride water casks, which had been brought ashore, and made appropriate gestures to indicate horsemen.

Juan Rodriques Cabrillo had traveled up and down the coast by ship in 1542-43 as well as Viscaino in 1602. Both sailed in open, undecked vessels. There is no record to indicate that they had any horses or mules.

The Anza expedition came through southern California in 1774. However, Anza traveled well north of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Another explanation is that the pictograph panel was painted during the mission period as magic against the Spanish/Mexican intruders. If this were the case, one might expect more than just four riders and many other motifs of Spanish/Mexican life. The four riders, as previously stated, seem to depict an event. However, it is still possible that a group of formerly friendly Chumash Indians returned to this old place of "power" to call upon adverse power to rid the land of the now unwanted invaders by controlling their spirits.

Finally, one is tempted to refer to the equestrians as the "four horsemen of the Apocalypse," a story that could have been relayed by priests in the missions. This seems unlikely since the biblical horsemen carried a bow, a pair of balance scales, and a sword. Only one equestrian at LAn-717 seems to be carrying anything. We are, of course, always quick to put things in our own frame of reference.

So, my money is on the depiction of the Portola expedition. How could the Indians know that the event would lead to the utter destruction of their culture and the death of 75-80% of their population within three to four decades. A universe collapsed and another took its place. How sad for us all.

Mike Kuhn

The 25th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day

California Coastal Cleanup Day is the premier volunteer event focused on the marine environment. In 2008, more than 70,000 volunteers worked together to collect more than 1,600,000 pounds of trash and recyclables from our beaches, lakes, and waterways. Since the program started in 1985, over 800,000 Californians have removed more than 13 million pounds of debris from our state's shorelines and coast. Cleanups will be held throughout California along bays, creeks, rivers, highways, and the coast. Join the Trailblazers as we participate in the Coastal Cleanup at the Simi Arroyo. See the schedule for all the details!

August 20th - 23rd 2009 - Dinkey Lakes Backpack

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2009 – Seven Rancho Simi Trailblazers participated in the backpacking trip to Dinkey Lakes. The first night was spent at Dinkey Creek Campground (5,710'), where we car-camped overnight in sleeping bags/tents. Fortunately there were only a few mosquitoes around, it was a relatively warm night. The



campsite was set among towering conifers and we were allowed to have a campfire. We retired early, eager to continue our adventure the next morning. The next three days were spent exploring this beautiful area. The day-by-day trip

summary is well worth reading. It is available on the News section of the website, along with many pictures that show the beauty and rugged nature of this area.

August 15th 2009 - Zuma/Westward Beach to Point Dume to Paradise Cove

Seven hikers carpoled to the trailhead off Westward Beach Road. A marine layer blanketed the coast, keeping the temperature pleasantly in the 60's as we began hiking toward the Point Dume land mass. After an easy climb onto Point Dume, we followed a trail as it led down to Dume Beach. We then strolled along the sandy beach for a couple of miles, enjoying the ocean sounds and sights, eventually arriving at the Paradise Cove Beach Café (<http://www.paradisecovemalibu.com>), a landmark for decades. We rested in the free-to-the-public beach chairs outside the restaurant, consumed beverages and ice cream, watched the other beachgoers, and reminisced about the "good old days" (including the TV series The Rockford Files which was set in Paradise Cove). After a while we walked out onto the nearby pier, watched a few fishermen, and enjoyed the view. Eventually

we resumed our hike and headed back along the beach the way we had come. After climbing back onto Point Dume, we hiked to its highest point which afforded excellent panoramic views.



We then took a slightly lower trail to an observation point with two benches where we spotted what appeared to be

seals and dolphins. We continued on the trail around the point and descended to the parking lot. We then headed home having completed an easy 6.1-mile hike with 400' of elevation gain, vowing to return again, perhaps in the spring when the coreopsis plants are in bloom.

August 8th 2009 - Carpinteria Bluffs

Seven hikers looking for a day of beach tranquility hiked the Carpinteria Bluffs trail this morning. We started at the trailhead and walked along the bluffs with a view of the ocean most of the way. We stopped at the Seal Sanctuary and spotted a few seals enjoying the surf. Next, we headed towards the campground and spent the rest of the hike walking on the sand along the shore dodging the waves and enjoying the view of the surf and the cool breeze on a warm day. Most of us felt overdressed for the hike. We sat on the rocks and had

lunch and then returned the same way, stopping again at the Seal Sanctuary where Roger captured a spectacular picture of a seal lion playing near the rocks. It was a calming and reflective way to spend a Saturday morning.



August 1st 2009 - Palos Verdes Peninsula Trail

Ten of us thought we would take our chances today. We learned about this hike from an article in the newspaper. Since none of us had ever done any hiking in The Palos Verdes area, we thought it would be a great opportunity.



On the first look down the cliff from the trailhead, it became obvious that the path ahead would be a difficult one. There was no real trail, just a path along the beach, ridden with bowling-ball sized boulders and many very slippery rocks.

So, half of us decided to take the high road and the other, far braver half, took the low road. The high road was on the bluffs, well above the beach, and also through some rather affluent residential streets. After a total of only about 2.6 miles, those that decided to brave the beach, found a path back up the cliff and on to the bluffs. This is where the whole group met and talked back to our cars via the bluffs. It was a noble effort, but this hike is definitely off our list. Although the weather was cool, at best we only made it about a third of the way to our destination.



RSTB Calendar September 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule	2 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Chris Stantzios Doug Temple	3 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule	4 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ceridwen Baker	5 Sycamore Canyon Shuttle See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Bill Stantzios
6 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule	7 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Sandra Fernandez-Achenbach	8 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Tom Gnad	9 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Nicholas Martino	10 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule	11	12 Camp Three Falls to Lilly Meadows* See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Debbie DeGoey
13 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule	14 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Calinda Baker	15 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kim Zorick	16 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Sandra Duarte	17 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Danielle Winfield	18 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Steve Whitmore	19 Work Party: California Coastal Cleanup Day See Schedule
20 Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Brian Steffen	21 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kerri McCoy	22 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ray Johnson	23 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Les Wilson Michele Sumandra	24 Chumash Trail 6pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Margaret Marasco	25	26
<i>Zion National Park & Bryce Canyon National Park* See Schedule</i>						
27 Zion & Bryce Nat'l Parks* See Schedule	28	29 Long Canyon 6:30pm hike See Schedule	30			
Rocky Peak 5pm hike See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Cesar Fabros						



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Hiking Schedule



REGULARLY SCHEDULED HIKES

(Rain cancels – No hikes on holidays)

Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak

Meet 5 pm 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 1st Street heading 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)

SEPTEMBER HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

September 5th **Sycamore Canyon Shuttle***

8 Miles - Moderate one way (1200' elevation loss)

This eight mile, one-way shuttle hike to the ocean is all downhill. When we get to the beach, we'll have lunch. We'll plan the logistics of the shuttle once the event draws near. You can find more information about this hike on the website. You must send email to markinthepark@sbcglobal.net to reserve your space on the shuttle. Reservations must be made and confirmed no later than September 1st.

September 12th **Camp Three Falls to Lilly Meadows***

6 MRT - Moderate (1,075' elevation gain)

Beautiful area with a waterfall about half way up. Bring lunch, water and wear boots. The website has more information about this hike. For those looking for a bit of a workout, there is an option of adding some mileage by taking the trail on up to Sheep Camp. Meet at **8 AM** at the **Stearns Street Park & Ride**. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water and lunch. Wear sturdy boots.

September 16th **Club Meeting**

7 PM - The Sycamore Drive Community Center - 1692 Sycamore Drive - Room B-1

September 19th **Work Party: California Coastal Cleanup Day - Simi Arroyo - Rancho Simi Community Park**

9 AM to Noon. Meet at corner of Royal Avenue and Erringer Road. Please wear long pants, sturdy shoes, gloves, hat, insect repellent, and sunscreen. For more info: 583-6462 or 583-6424.

September 21st - 27th **Zion National Park & Bryce Canyon National Park***

This very special event is limited to Trailblazer members only. Reservations are limited and close on September 14th. Send email to markinthepark@sbcglobal.net to make your reservation. This trip is for the entire family. You may join in on the planned hikes, or simply enjoy the sights. We will be tent camping at the Watchman Campground in Zion. There is a non-refundable campground fee, shared equally among all those who sign up. Please plan to arrive on the afternoon of September 20th. There is also a \$20 per car park entry fee. The website has links to a wealth of information about Bryce Canyon, Zion National Park, and many awesome pictures from last year's trip.



Hikes marked with this symbol means no dogs allowed on trail(s).

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

For 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@me.com
Treasurer:	Peter Ely		
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:	Les Wilson	HM (805) 522-2642	les.wilson@roadrunner.com
Website:	Mark Gilmore	HM (805) 529-5581	markinthepark@sbcglobal.net
Ways & Means Chair:	Marty Richards	HM (805) 526-4414	mlrrdh@yahoo.com
Publicity Chair:	Carrie McCline		
Newsletter Editor:	Kelli Ham		simitrailrunner@gmail.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 _____

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

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone wk/hm _____

Would you like to receive periodic email announcements about club activities? Yes () No ()

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



U.S. Postage

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