



Rancho Simi Trail Blazers

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation



Work Party - Coastal Cleanup Day - Arroyo Simi Cleanup - 9 AM to Noon - September 21st

Meet at Rancho Simi Community Park, on Erringer Road, just south of the arroyo bridge.



Help to further reduce trash by bringing your used plastic shopping bags or a bucket to put trash in.

Help do your part for the environment. Please bring water, wear long pants, sturdy shoes, gloves, hat, insect repellent, and sunscreen. For more information call 583-6424

Due to unforeseen circumstances, all activities are subject to change without notice. Please see www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/ for event details and the most up-to-date schedule.

Weekly hikes

Come with us on more of our weekly hikes! We have a lot of fun, taking photos, talking and just hiking and taking in the beautiful scenery like the one in the photo.



There are hikes every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday.



RSTB LOGO T-SHIRTS

Sporting the beautiful RSTB logo, these are great shirts! Please call Mike Kuhn if you'd like to order at 805-583-2345.

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



WHY THEY CAME

In 1775, Juan Batista de Anza recruited soldiers and settlers to move to Alta California. His expedition, starting in January 1776, on the eve of our own Declaration of Independence from Great Britain, resulted in a more than doubling of the number of people from New Spain, including Mexican Indians, in Alta California. Every one of those

(continued on page 2, column 1)

RSTB CLUB MEETING

This month's RSTB meeting will be at: Sycamore Drive Community Center 1692 Sycamore Drive - Room B-1
Wednesday: September 18, 2013
7:00PM
Everyone Welcome to attend!

Upcoming Events

September 7th - Temescal Canyon/Viewpoint Trail Loop + Will Rogers SHP via Rivas Canyon Trail - 8.5 MRT with - Moderate (1,800' of elevation gain/loss) - **8AM**

September 14th - Palm Springs to Mt. San Jacinto via the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway* 11 MRT - Moderate (2300' elevation gain) - **6:30AM**

September 18th - Club Meeting - 7PM *Everyone Welcome to attend!*

September 21st
Zuma Ridge Trail to Edison Road
6 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,500' elevation gain) - **8AM**

September 21st
Work Party - Coastal Cleanup Day - Arroyo Simi Cleanup - Please bring water, wear long pants, sturdy shoes, gloves, hat, insect repellent, and sunscreen. For more information call 583-6424 - **9AM**

September 28th
Hondo Canyon
7.6 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,500' elevation gain) - **8AM**

Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District events can be viewed at <http://www.rsrpd.org> to see what is happening next!

200 were recruited from the coastal area from Rosario northward, primarily from Sinaloa Province, and to a much lesser degree from Baja California from Loreto south. Indeed, 24 percent came from the village of Villa Sinaloa. But why did they come? What would have convinced Santiago Pico and his wife to uproot his family of seven children, ages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 15. (It is uncertain what relationship the 15 year old had to Santiago - she certainly was not his wife's child who was 11 years her senior.) Alta California was, for all practical purposes, the end of the earth - beyond the civilized world.

In 1770 there was a devastating flood in Sinaloa and southern Sonora. Hundreds lost their homes. Many moved to other areas. Gold and silver production in Sonora and Sinaloa had fallen off because buckets were insufficient to rid the mines of water. Production would not resume until well into the Nineteenth Century. So, unemployment was high and the economy was depressed. Finally, in northern Sonora, Apache and Seri raids forced many residents to flee to the south. Santiago Pico and his children were born in San Xavier de Cabazan but were recruited in San Miguel de Horcasitas Presidio in Sonora.

Finally, it must be remembered that Juan Batista had returned that same year from his expedition of discovery into Alta California. No doubt Juan Batista and his men returned with stories of a rich land waiting for the taking - a land of opportunities for both social and economic mobility.

For these reasons, it was possible to recruit 200 new settlers to pick up and make the long and dangerous trek to a far off land where they would be surrounded by thousands of possibly hostile native Americans. That they were successful at all is astounding.

Mike Kuhn
12-7-04

VENTURA COUNTY BEE KEEPING IN 1886

The following is a description of bee keeping in Ventura County - the year 1886. Honey production was a major means of livelihood for many of Simi Valley's first Anglo-American settlers. The Appletons, for example, were beekeepers. Bees were a major source of sugar. Bees grazed on native vegetation. Only later did they become important in pollination of agricultural crops. Honey could be shipped worldwide because of its preservative characteristics.

BEE CULTURE

"California abounds in honey producing plants of spontaneous growth. The mountains yield the sages, and other bloom, which affords the finest quality of honey. The mountainous regions, which greatly predominate in the State and Ventura County, will ever be a prominent bee pasture, while the wholesale slaughter of bees by cold, which is frequent in the States east of the Rocky Mountains, never occurs here. While the mountains abound in white, purple and black sage, wild alfalfa with wild buckwheat, sumac, and other summer bloom, the foot-hills and valleys in the spring are covered with alfeleria (i.e., red-stemmed filaree), the bloom of which with mustard enables the bees to fill their hives with honey by the time the finer honey producing plants are in bloom. Honey is collected every month in the year. Southern California is noted for producing more and finer honey than any other portion of the world.

There are about eighteen thousand hives in the county of Ventura. Last year the county produced about three million pounds of honey, sufficient to fill one hundred and fifty cars. In many cases four hundred pounds of honey to the hive have been produced.

One apiary of seven hundred hives, and surrounded by bees amounting in all to eighteen hundred hives within the radius of one or two miles averaged one hundred and thirty pounds each. Another apiary containing five hundred and fifty hives in 1884, increased to about twelve hundred, and yielded eighty tons of honey in 1886. These are presented as fair examples of the products of the honey bee in this section."

Bees were the only source of nearly pure sugar for human being until about 200 years ago. Honey has been collected in hunting and gathering cultures since the beginning of time. Because bees often established their hives in hollow trees and logs, the transition to man provided the logs, i.e., new hives, certainly predated agriculture. Bee keeping was a major activity in dynastic Egypt. Bees were worshipped and are frequently depicted on Egyptian monuments. Ancient Crete, as early as 2000 B. C., shipped fruit preserved in honey all over the Mediterranean basin and as far away as the British Isles. The capital of Crete and its major port was Candia - which gave the name of its product, i.e., "candy," to the world.

Mike Kuhn
12-24-04



August 3rd - Newton Canon



Eleven hikers met at Donut Delite on an unseasonably cool and cloudy morning. Once we arrived at the Kanan Road trailhead, we were met by seven more hikers, increasing the total count to eighteen. The clouds and fog left us, once we arrived, but the cool temperatures remained. Up and over Kanan Road we climbed, on a middle segment of the famous Backbone Trail. Crossing Latigo Road, and passing by its Backbone Trail parking lot, we thought it quite unusual, because not a single car was in the lot. Quite often, this same parking lot is completely full. Continuing on down the trail, we left the Backbone Trail, stopped at our Castro Motorway saddle turn-around point, and enjoyed some trail snacks. The heat and the humidity of the day began catching up with us, so it was most reassuring to know that it was mostly down hill on the way back to our cars. If was a fine hike, having completed 7.4 miles, with about 1,900' total elevation gain and loss.

August 10th - Mt. Pinos to Sheep Camp



Seven hikers carpoled to the Chula Vista parking lot (favored by stargazers) about two miles from the summit of Mt. Pinos (8,831'). The hike began on a pleasantly cool morning by

following a dirt road through the forest to the Tumamait-Mt. Pinos Trail (21W03) trailhead at the Condor Observation Point where the views to the north, south and west were obscured by smoke/smog. The well-maintained dirt trail then entered the Chumash Wilderness as we descended the open western slope - which displayed a variety of wildflowers - via

switchbacks; we then crossed a saddle and ascended the forested eastern slope of Sawmill Mountain. We then followed an unmarked side trail to the Sawmill Mountain peak (8,818'), marked by a large rock monument. Returning to the main trail we descended to a junction with the North Fork Trail (22W02) which we followed as it descended southward half a mile to Sheep Primitive Camp (8,200') under a stand of Jeffrey Pines. There we took a rest/lunch break and enjoyed the pleasant forest environment. We then retraced our route up Sawmill Mountain and back to the Condor Observation Point. After regrouping atop Mt. Pinos on a still-cool day, we hiked back to the parking lot and then returned home having completed a 10-mile hike with 1,925' of elevation gain.

Coastal Cleanup Day
Saturday, September 21, 9 am-noon

Rancho Simi Community Park,
On Erringer Road, near corner of Royal Avenue

EVERY PIECE OF TRASH YOU REMOVE
REVEALS SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL



Bring Your Own...

bags, bucket, and bottle of water to the event. Finally, you can use those used plastic bags you've been saving! Help to further reduce trash by bringing your used plastic shopping bags or a bucket to put trash in.

Join your friends and neighbors at Rancho Simi Community Park to help do your part for the environment.

Please wear long pants, sturdy shoes, gloves, hat, insect repellent, and sunscreen. For more information call 583 - 6424
www.simivalley.org

What Can We Do To Keep Our Waterways and Oceans Free From Debris and Pollutants?

- ☐ Take part in local cleanup events – such as Coastal Cleanup Day and Neighborhood Council Arroyo Cleanups.
- ☐ Avoid using disposable bottles and other consumable products.
- ☐ Use natural pest killers in your garden, such as ladybugs, decollate snails, or praying mantis eggs.
- ☐ If you must use fertilizers or pesticides, use them sparingly.
- ☐ Don't over water your yard
- ☐ Properly dispose of used oil, anti-freeze, paints, and other household chemicals - use community Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events.



Plastic Facts

- ☐ Only a small percentage of plastics are recycled!
- ☐ Plastic does not biodegrade – it just breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces.
- ☐ Plastic is the most common type of litter washed to the ocean and beaches by urban runoff in California.
- ☐ Plastic pollutes oceans worldwide – because plastic is light it travels the world on ocean currents.
- ☐ Plastics comprise up to 90% of floating marine debris.
- ☐ There is more than six times the amount of plastic in some parts of the ocean than plankton.



- ☐ Many marine birds and animals eat the plastic debris, mistaking the tiny broken down pieces for food – this often leads to their death.



RSTB Calendar September



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	2  LABOR DAY INTERNATIONAL 2013	3 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	4  Happy Birthday Kai Gillespie	5 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jamuna Ramnath Christian Prentke	6	7 Temescal Canyon/Viewpoint Trail Loop + Will Rogers SHP via Rivas Canyon Trail 8AM See Schedule
August 29th - September 2nd Backpack Trip - Cottonwood Lakes*		<i>Happy Birthday</i> Joseph Farrar	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Kai Gillespie	<i>Happy Birthday</i> Debbie DeGoey	 <i>Happy Birthday</i> John Buchanan	
8 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Tom Gnad	9	10 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	11	12 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Debbie DeGoey	13 <i>Happy New Year!</i>  <i>Happy Birthday</i> John Buchanan	14 Palm Springs to Mt. San Jacinto * 6:30AM  See Schedule
15 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	16	17 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	18 Club Meeting 7PM See Schedule <i>Everyone Welcome to attend!</i>	19 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule	20 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Julie Warner Brian Steffen	21 Work Party - Coastal Cleanup Day - Arroyo Simi Cleanup - 9AM & Zuma Ridge Trail to Edison Road 8AM See Schedule
22 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ray Johnson	23 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Michele Sumandra Les Wilson	24 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	25	26 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule	27 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Cesar Fabros	28 Hondo Canyon 8AM See Schedule
29 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	30					



Due to unforeseen circumstances, all activities are subject to change without notice.
Please see www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/ for event details and the most up-to-date schedule.



REGULARLY SCHEDULED HIKES

(Rain cancels – No hikes on holidays)

Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak Fire Road

Meet at **5 PM** at the Rocky Peak Fire Road trailhead. Take the Rocky Peak exit on the 118 Freeway and head north over the freeway. Park at the trailhead or across the bridge on the Santa Susana Pass Road. (Strenuous - 4.8 MRT - 1,200' elevation gain.)

Tuesday Evening - Mt. McCoy Trail

Meet at **6 PM** in the parking lot, to the south of Donut Delite, located on the north east side of the intersection of Royal Avenue and Madera Road. (Moderate - 4.0 MRT - 675' elevation gain)

Thursday Evening - The Chumash Trail

Meet at **6 PM** at Chumash trailhead. Directions: Take the 118 Freeway to Yosemite exit. Go north on Yosemite and turn right on Flanagan Dr. The trailhead is at the end of Flanagan Drive. (Moderate to Strenuous - 5.4 MRT - 1,210' total elevation gain.)

SEPTEMBER HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

September 7th

Temescal Canyon/Viewpoint Trail Loop + Will Rogers SHP via Rivas Canyon Trail

8.5 MRT with - Moderate (1,800' of elevation gain/loss)

The hike begins in the lower parking lot near Sunset Blvd. We'll then return via Rivas Canyon to lovely Temescal Gateway Park. Meet at the 118 & Stearns St. Park & Ride at **8 AM**. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water and lunch/snacks. Wear boots. Read more about each hike at: <http://www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/index.html>

September 14th

Palm Springs to Mt. San Jacinto via the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway*



11 MRT - Moderate (2300' elevation gain)

This is an all day event. We'll leave the Stearns St. Park & Ride at **6:30 AM**, and arrive at the tramway mid-morning. We'll head on home that same afternoon/evening. Please go to www.pstramway.com for more information about the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (including the cost). For more information about the hike to the peak, go to www.localhikesbeta.com/Hikes/San-Jacinto-Peak-via-Palm-Springs-Tram-1390.

September 18th

Club Meeting

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

September 21st

Zuma Ridge Trail to Edison Road & Work Party - Coastal Cleanup Day - Arroyo Simi Cleanup - 9 AM to Noon

6 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,500' elevation gain)

Zuma Ridge Trail (also known as Zuma Ridge Motorway) is a wide dirt service road, which weaves northwest up the ridge west of Zuma Canyon. The hike starts at the base of the flood plane, but quickly leaves the shrubby canyon for grassy mountain slopes. The views improve as the trail climbs, offering several great lookouts over Zuma Beach, Point Dune, Malibu High School, and the ocean beyond. Meet at **8 AM** near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water and lunch/snacks. Wear boots. For more about the Work Party see page one!

September 28th

Hondo Canyon

7.6 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,500' elevation gain)

Another spectacular section of the Backbone Trail this hike includes staggering views of pink colored sedimentary rock formations. Once back at the main trail you will begin switch backing up the steep south slope of Hondo Canyon thru a lovely oak forest and then a deep chaparral forest. Along the way you will enjoy breathtaking views of sedimentary rock formations known as the Sespe Formation. Meet at **8 AM** near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water and lunch/snacks. Wear boots. Read more about each hike at: <http://www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/index.html>



* Not within the jurisdiction of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District. No dogs allowed on trail(s). For additional 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>

RANCHO SIMI TRAIL BLAZERS

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation

Executive Chair:	Mike Kuhn	HM (805) 583-2345	hannahmike@me.com
Treasurer:	Craig Malin		
Park District Liaison:	Colleen Janssen	WK (805) 584-4453	volunteers@rsrpd.us
Work Parties Chair:	VOLUNTEER NEEDED		Contact Mike Kuhn at: 805-583-2345
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:	VOLUNTEER NEEDED		Contact Mike Kuhn at: 805-583-2345
Newsletter Editor:	Linda Mann		linda.martins.mann@simitrailblazers.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 _____ Birth Month _____ Day _____

Family memberships: Please list names and birthdays of additional family members (Month & Day Only)

Phone (provide up to two numbers): work/home/cell _____

How do you want to receive the Newsletter? Check all that apply.

Mail Mailing address _____

Email Email address _____

How did you find out about the RSTB? _____

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

Rancho Simi Foundation and mail it to RSTB, P.O. Box 630445, Simi Valley, CA 93063-0399



U.S. Postage

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