



Rancho Simi Trail Blazers

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation



Our bank will no longer accept dues or other checks made out to the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers. **ALL CHECKS must be made out to the Rancho Simi Foundation.**

Weekly hikes!!



Has anyone ever told you to take a hike?

Did you know that in Simi Valley you can take many hikes with the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers and explore the beauty of Simi Valley and other beautiful locations? We have so much fun taking photos, talking and just viewing the beautiful scenery like the photo above. We even enjoy going on overnight events. **Please join us** and see for yourself how much fun we have!

Hikes are every Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, and most Saturdays



September

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



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



TRAIL SAFETY

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

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

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

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RSTB CLUB MEETING

This month's RSTB meeting will be at:
Sycamore Drive Community Center
1692 Sycamore Drive – Room B-1
Wednesday: September 21, 2016
5:30PM Everyone Welcome to attend!

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

Upcoming Events

September 3rd Arroyo Simi Bike Path Ride - Madera Road to Ralston Street
16 MRT - Easy (elevation gain/loss: 350') **8AM**

September 10th Carpinteria Bluffs, Tar Pits Park, and Bates Beach* 7.1 miles MRT - Easy (elevation gain 300') **8AM**

September 17th Cloudburst Summit to Buckhorn Campground via Cooper Canyon*
5.5 Mile One Way Shuttle - Moderate to Strenuous (800' elevation gain and 1,400' elevation loss) **8AM**

September 21st Club Board Meeting The Sycamore Drive Community Center - 1692 Sycamore Drive - Room B-1 **5:30PM**
Everyone Welcome to attend!

September 24th Mt. Pinos to Sheep Camp via Sawmill Mountain* 9 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,800' elevation gain/loss) **7AM**

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.

July 16th - Mt. Waterman Loop



On a day when the temperature in Simi Valley was forecast to reach the 90's, five hikers carpooled past Cloudburst

Summit to the parking lot adjacent to the Buckhorn Day Use Area at mile

marker 58.02 along the Angeles Crest Highway (ACH) in the San Gabriel Mountains [Angeles National Forest] in an effort to "beat the heat." The trailhead temperature was in the 70's as we crossed the ACH and began hiking. The trail entered a cool shady pine-scented forest as it climbed steadily, but not steeply, up Mt. Waterman. After about three miles of very pleasant hiking (including cool breezes) with stunning views of mountains and canyons, we reached the shady summit of Mt. Waterman where we climbed on some of the rock formations and rested before continuing our clockwise loop hike. We soon reached a brand-new sign that pointed us to the upper end of Waterman ski lift #1 and then on down the mountain via the wide well-maintained dirt road used by authorized vehicles; the road was bordered by the pine forest so visibility was quite limited on the way down and we were exposed to the sun for most of this section of our hike. After reaching the ACH we retrieved our vehicle and headed home having completed a pleasant 6.7-mile hike with 1,470' of elevation gain/loss.

July 23rd - Danielson Memorial via the Wendy Trail and Satwiwa

9 hikers assembled at the Wendy Trail trailhead on Potrero Road at the south end of Wendy Drive in Newbury Park (which borders the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area) on an already warm morning on a day that was forecast to be "a scorcher." Our hike began by following the Wendy Trail to the Satwiwa Native American Indian Culture Center at Rancho Sierra Vista and then heading diagonally southeast across the adjacent grassland to the Danielson Road leading to the Danielson Memorial. The trail (dirt road) climbed for a while before dropping into Upper Sycamore Canyon and crossing its dry streambed where we briefly enjoyed some welcome shade. After taking a short break we continued upward on the dirt road and followed it as it rose up Old Boney Mountain via a series of switchbacks which soon provided us with sweeping views of the northern portion of Big Sycamore Canyon and its surrounds. A few blooming wildflowers were in evidence, especially cliff asters, and we spotted a Mountain King Snake. Eventually we reached the tree-shaded Danielson Memorial and the ruins of the nearby Danielson Cabin (only a chimney remains). After a pleasant lunch/rest break in this beautiful

spot, we began returning along the Danielson Road. By this time the scorching temperatures had arrived and the sun beat down on us mercilessly as we plodded back to the parking area. Reaching our vehicles, we completed a strenuous (due to the heat) 6.7-mile hike with 1,321' of elevation gain/loss.

July 30th - East Canyon to Mission Point

9 hikers met in Simi Valley and then carpooled to the "East Canyon, Rice Canyon, and Michael D. Antonovich Open Space" section of the 4,000-acre Santa Clarita Woodlands Park via I5 and "The Old Road" in Santa Clarita. It was already a warm morning as we began hiking southward along the non-maintained and somewhat-eroded East Canyon Motorway as it followed the dry streambed in the canyon bottom. The route was lined with bay laurel, black walnut, cottonwood, sycamore, and oak trees. Soon the dirt road began rising more steeply along the western side of a wooded ridge that provided us with views of the steep slopes to the west and relics of the bigcone Douglas-fir trees that once covered the mountain. An intermittent breeze and occasional shade cooled us as the road led us upward to a junction with Bridge Road (and the Oat Mountain Motorway) which is blocked by a SoCal Gas fence and gate. Having reached the highest point in our hike, we headed southeast along the pleasant Corral Sunshine Motorway to Mission Point which usually provides a panoramic view of the San Fernando Valley and beyond. However, on this day visibility was severely limited as a result of the Sand (Canyon) Fire and the air quality was poor. After resting, we retraced our route to the trailhead and returned home having completed a 9.3 mile hike with about 1,750' of elevation gain/loss on a hot day with temperatures into the high 90's.

August 6th - Mt. Baldy, Ski Lift, Devil's Backbone, Ski Hut Loop

Six hikers carpooled to the Mt. Baldy (Mt. San Antonio) Ski Lift parking lot (6,447') at the north end of Mt. Baldy Road on a pleasant summer morning to hike to Mt. Baldy peak (10,064'), the highest peak in the San Gabriel Mountains. After riding the lower ski lift up to Baldy Notch (7,802'), we set out on the 3.6-mile climb to the peak. Initially the trail followed a fire road/ski run heading up the mountain to the west for about 1.25 miles, eventually leading to the well-named Devil's Backbone portion of the trail. This middle portion of the trail led onto a sharp narrow ridge with steep drop-offs on both sides posing a serious danger to careless hikers, but affording great views into the deep gorge of Lytle Creek to the north and into San Antonio Canyon to the south. The trail then narrowed to a pulse-raising 12" - 18" width as it wound around the southeast flank of Mt. Harwood, again requiring a keen focus on the trail. Eventually, Mt. Baldy peak came into view in the distance. After crossing a saddle, we began climbing the steep trail to the top of the mountain, pausing as needed to catch our breath. Finally we reached the top of Mt. Baldy and were rewarded with a 360-degree view. After resting, eating our lunches, and enjoying the view we descended the unsigned, steep/rocky/slippery Baldy Bowl Trail to the Sierra Club Ski Hut and enjoyed its beautiful setting. Continuing our descent we eventually reached pretty San Antonio Falls. After retrieving our shuttle vehicle we returned to Simi Valley, tired but happy, having completed a strenuous 8.4 mile hike with 2,695' of elevation gain and 4,237' of elevation loss.



RSTB Calendar SEPTEMBER



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule	2	3 Arroyo Simi Bike Path Ride - Madera Road to Ralston Street 8AM See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Joseph Farrar
4 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	5  LABOR DAY	6 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	7	8 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule	9	10 Carpinteria Bluffs, Tar Pits Park, and Bates Beach* 8AM  See Schedule
11 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	12 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Debbie DeGoey	13 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	14	15 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule	16	17 Cloudburst Summit to Buckhorn Campground via Cooper Canyon* 8AM See Schedule
18 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	19	20 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	21 Club Meeting 5:30PM <i>Everyone Welcome to attend!</i> See Schedule	22 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule <i>Happy Birthday</i> Erica Weis	23 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Michele Sumandra Les Wilson	24 Mt. Pinos to Sheep Camp via Sawmill Mountain* 7AM See Schedule
25 Rocky Peak Fire Road 5PM See Schedule	26	27 Mt. McCoy Trail 6PM See Schedule	28	29 Chumash Trail 6PM See Schedule	30	

SANTA ANA WILDFIRE THREAT INDEX - Provides a 6 day forecast of Santa Ana Winds Wildfire Threats on a color coded map <http://psgeodata.fs.fed.us/sawti/>

CALIFORNIA FIRE WEATHER MAP - Provides actual Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches http://www.fire.ca.gov/communications/communications_firesafety_redflagwarning.php (Scroll down to map)

RANCHO SIMI TRAIL BLAZERS

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation

Executive Chair:	Mike Kuhn	HM (805) 583-2345	hannahmike@me.com
Treasurer:	Santiago Homsí		
Park District Liaison:	Jeannie Liss	WK (805) 584-4453	volunteers@rsrpd.us
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Vice Hiking Chair:	Les Wilson	HM (805) 522-2642	les.wilson@roadrunner.com
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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 1231, Simi Valley, CA 93062**



U.S. Postage

RSTB
P.O. Box 1231
Simi Valley, CA 93062

(Continued from page 1 column 2)

TRAIL SAFETY

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.

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.

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.)

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.

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

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

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

Carry a cell phone with you.

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.

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

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

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

Do not throw rocks and teach your children to not throw rocks. An unseen human being may be on the receiving end.

ERRINGER ADOBE

Back in the good old days during the depression, when most people in Simi Valley had very little money; one farm family on the eastern side of Erringer Road north of Cochran Street started their home with an adobe. Later, they added on with one or more wood-framed additions. When I came to Simi Valley in the 1970s, you could not tell from the outside that any portion of the home was made of adobe. Eventually the land was sold and the house was demolished to make way for what is today El Torito Restaurant and Catina.

That family had built using adobe because that was what they could afford. The reality was that the Spanish and Mexican families during the late-18th and 19th centuries used adobe construction because that was the only practical building material other than wattle and daub (i.e., woven willow branches plastered with mud) available to them. As far as I know, only the Simi Adobe remains.

Mike Kuhn
6-06

EFFECT OF GLOBAL WARMING ON WATER MANAGEMENT IN CALIFORNIA

Global warming is a reality. At least the major portion is of anthropogenetic origin due to the cumulative effects of rising greenhouse gases in our atmosphere. Indeed, our planet's atmosphere is warming many times faster than at any time during the last several million years. Portions of the Greenland and Antarctic ice caps are

melting at an accelerated rate, and sea level is rising at an accelerated rate. It is now forecast that there will be no more glaciers in Glacier National Park in 20 years.

Warmer north Pacific waters have resulted in a steady trend toward increased precipitation in the northern Sierra Nevada - yes, more water for California. However, more of the precipitation is coming in the form of rain. In the past, heavy winter snow packs have melted slowly in the spring and into the summer. The reservoirs in the canyons of the lower and middle slopes of the Sierras have generally been adequate to store the bulk of the runoff because throughout the spring and summer enough water has been let out to service the demands of agriculture and urban areas. Indeed, the snow pack has functioned as our biggest reservoir in the system. Now that more of the precipitation comes in the form of rain, i.e., not in the form of snow, the runoff of which quickly fills the reservoirs to overflowing. The effect is that the increased precipitation and reduced winter snow pack have resulted in less, not more, water being available for man's use. More of the water flows into the Pacific Ocean. In addition, what snow pack we do get melts faster and is gone sooner. All of this comes at a time when the demand for water in California continues to rise.

Unfortunately for the environment, part of the answer is more storage reservoirs and a more aggressive strategy of storing surplus water underground. In Ventura County, we have begun a program to store some 300,000 acre-feet of water underground as a hedge against droughts. By comparison, Bard Reservoir, which is located just west of Wood Ranch, holds a bit less than 10,000 acre-feet of water.

Our water management strategies in California will undergo many adjustments over the next several decades and centuries. Perhaps we are too successful as a species for the good of our planet.

Mike Kuhn
1-04



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 HIKE (Rain cancels – No hikes on holidays)

Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak Fire Road

Meet at **5PM** at the Rocky Peak Fire Road trailhead on the northern side of the Rocky Peak exit from State Route 118. 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)

(We Meet at 5PM during daylight saving time.)

Tuesday Evening - Mt. McCoy Trail

Meet at **6PM** in the parking lot, located to the south of Donut Delite, near the NE corner of Madera and Royal. (Moderate - 4.0 MRT - 600' elevation gain)

Thursday Evening - Chumash Trail

Meet at **6PM** 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 - 1300' total elevation gain.)

SEPTEMBER HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

September 3rd Arroyo Simi Bike Path Ride - Madera Road to Ralston Street

16 MRT - Easy (elevation gain/loss: 350')

The Arroyo Simi Bike Path is a two lane bike path in Simi Valley that runs from Madera Road, just south of Easy Street on the west, and ends at Cochran Avenue, between Fig Street and Ralston Street on the east. Dust off your bikes and your helmets and enjoy the ride with us. Meet at **8AM** at the intersection of Madera Road and East Street. Parking is available adjacent the well-marked trailhead.

September 10th Carpinteria Bluffs, Tar Pits Park, and Bates Beach* No Dogs Allowed at this event

7.1 miles MRT - Easy (elevation gain 300')

The outbound portion of this hike is along the Carpinteria Bluffs from Rincon Park to Tar Pits State Park and beyond; the return trip is along Bates beach - an opportunity to wade in the water! Both parks offer rest rooms, picnic tables, and chipmunks. We'll plan to eat our picnic lunches (that we each bring ourselves) at Rincon Park at the end of the hike. The picnic tables are covered by a roof and afford a great view of the ocean, surfers, ships, and oil rigs. Meet at **8AM** near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal.

September 17th Cloudburst Summit to Buckhorn Campground via Cooper Canyon*

5.5 Mile One Way Shuttle - Moderate to Strenuous (800' elevation gain and 1,400' elevation loss)

Our hike will start along the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) at Cloudburst Summit (7,018') where it crosses Angeles Crest Highway. We'll follow the PCT along a ridge with views to the north and south and then descend through "beautiful stands of Jeffrey and sugar pine, cedar, alder, and oak" along the creek in Cooper Canyon. We'll then hike up the Burkhardt Trail to its trailhead in the Buckhorn Campground (6,411'). Meet at the 118 & Stearns St. Park & Ride at **8AM**. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water and lunch/snacks. Wear boots.

September 21st Club Meeting *Everyone Welcome to attend!*

5:30PM - The Sycamore Drive Community Center - 1692 Sycamore Drive - Room B-1

September 24th Mt. Pinos to Sheep Camp via Sawmill Mountain*

9 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1,800' elevation gain/loss)

After driving to the Chula Vista parking lot less than two miles from the top (8,831') of Mt. Pinos (near Frazier Park) in the Los Padres National Forest, we'll follow a dirt road through the forest to the summit where there are excellent views to the north, south, and west. We'll return the way we came. Meet at the 118 & Stearns St. Park & Ride at **7AM**. Bring 2 to 3 quarts of water and lunch/snacks. Wear boots.

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.

Full descriptions of these hikes and activities are available at
<http://www.simitrailblazers.com/activities/index.html>