



# Rancho Simi Trail Blazers

A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation



**Welcome!**

SHASHA TAN  
JON & FEIFEI FORD  
STEVE & KATHY FOWLER



## ON THE EDGE

Do you want to get up close to a mountain lion and other wild animals you might encounter on the rural/urban fringe?

On **Saturday March 17, 2006 at 1 pm**, in the Multipurpose Room of the Rancho Santa Susana Community Center at 5005-C Los Angeles Avenue in Simi Valley, **The Mountain Lion Foundation** will present a program entitled:

“On the Edge”



Mountain Lion Cub  
Photo is courtesy of the  
Mountain Lion Foundation

This program is a **live animal** presentation on wildlife/human conflict occurring on the urban edges, i.e., urban areas abutting natural areas, involving a variety of solutions to these encounters. The program will detail the specifics on each animal’s biology and needs, resulting in an action/reaction resolution to the conflicts in urban backyards.

## Thanks

**Endurance Boot Camp (EBC,** <http://EnduranceBootCamp.com>) is the commercial enterprise of Sarita and Randy Shoemaker. EBC's goal is to help motivate people into getting into shape - thereby gaining control of their lives.

Recently they had hike to the Rocky Point uplands. As a result, they have donated \$120 to the Rancho Simi Trail Blazers, with a few more dollars to come in. They hope to make the Rocky Peak Trail climb an annual event.

This is what we need; more people trying to gain and maintain fitness while using our trails!



Left to right: Sarita Shoemaker,  
Mike Kuhn, and Randy Shoemaker.  
Photo by Hannah 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  
**March 21, 2007**

## \*\*\* WANTED \*\*\*

Our group needs a few volunteers. If you are interested in either of these positions, please contact Mike Kuhn.

### Newsletter Editor

Someone is needed to take over the newsletter. Training is available.

### Publicity Chair

We need someone to get publicity out on Trail Blazer events.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MARCH 11<sup>th</sup>, 5pm

Daylight Saving Time is here!  
The **Sunday Evening Hike** will now start at 5pm.

### MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>, 8am – 11am

**Lower Chumash Trail Work Party**  
See page 5 for more information.

### MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>, 1pm

**Mountain Lion Foundation presents "On the Edge"** – See column 1 for more information.

### APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>

**Wildflower Walk – Antelope Valley**  
Meet at 8am near Donut Delite in the NE corner of Madera and Royal. This is an ALL DAY event.

More information on these events can be found at

<http://simitrailblazers.com>

To make reservations, please email Mark Gilmore at

[markinthepark@sbcglobal.net](mailto:markinthepark@sbcglobal.net).



## THE SIMI-SANTA ROSA FAULT

The Simi-Santa Rosa fault extends from the Oxnard Plain through Camarillo and the northern side of the Tierra Rejada Valley, south of the railroad at Madera Road, and marking the base of the Santa Susana Mountains as far east as Las Lajas Canyon. The fault may connect with and become the Northridge fault. The fault is a relic of the collision of the North Pacific Plate and North American Plate. The San Andreas fault marks the boundary between those two great plates. The angular collision of those plates, starting in the Palms Spring area and extending into northwestern Ventura County, has resulted in the North Pacific Plate having to alter its course to the west northwest near Palm Springs and then again to the north northwest east of Cuyama Valley. The net result is a shortening, i.e., thickening, of the Earth's crust in the form of folding and faulting. The Transverse Ranges Physiographic Province, consisting of the San Bernardino Mountains, the San Gabriel Mountains and the Santa Monica Mountains, including the mountains of Ventura County and the Simi-Santa Rosa fault, are part of the complicated topography that has resulted. The fault is a high angle thrust fault with the hanging wall, i.e., the up thrust portion, on the north northwest side of the fault.

The fault is classified by the California Division of Mines and Geology as being "active" (as far east as Las Lajas Canyon), which means that it has experienced surface rupture during the last 10,000-11,000 years. Recent work on the fault in the area just north of the site of the former Simi Valley Drive-in Theater, has led to the conclusion that the fault has experienced surface rupture during the last 1,500 to 6,000 years. With further study, it is hoped that more precise information on the activity status of the fault in the Simi Valley area and just how often surface rupture has occurred can be determined.

What geologists are now finding is that in some discrete areas the hanging wall has been thrown over the fault to the south southeast, creating a shingling effect. For example, on the western side of the 23 Freeway on the northern side of the Tierra Rejada Valley is a vernal pool that historically accumulated water during the winter and spring. The depression rests on an upland above the Tierra Rejada Valley. The actual trace of the fault runs well north of the depression. The uplands on which the depression is formed constitute geological material that has been thrust up and over the fault in that shingling effect. (The area has now been developed for housing. Since that development was approved after the fault was classified as active, we can be assured that development has occurred in compliance with the requirements of the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Hazard Act.) Apparently, the same thing has occurred on the old drive-in theater site and the subdivision to the west. The main trace of the fault runs near the top of the ridge to the northwest. However, faulting continues to within about 100 feet northwest of where the old concession building was located on the drive-in site. The developer of the old drive-in site was forced to exclude residential development on the northwestern approximately 40 percent of the property because of the presence of faulting.

The same shingling effect has been identified north of the old Texas Tract. As a result, the layout of the new subdivision of the area has had to comply with the requirements of Alquist-Priolo. The requirement of the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Hazard Act are intending to preclude construction of homes and most other structures directly over a fault that may result in surface rupture with a minimum margin of safety.

Does the Simi-Santa Rosa fault represent an earthquake hazard in Simi Valley? Certainly. The threat must be taken seriously, although there is no reason for panic. If an earthquake were to occur, it would likely be in the 6.4 to 6.7 range. If the entire fault system were to rupture - an unlikely event - and if the Northridge fault is part of that system, a moment magnitude 7.0 earthquake could occur. At this point it is impossible to say if and when whether either one of these events will occur. Either event could occur tomorrow, ten years from now or 4,000 years from now.

In any case, that, in a nutshell, is what we know about the fault.

Mike Kuhn



### 1860 MAP OF CALIFORNIA

In the old book trade it has long since been discovered that if you cut the illustrations and prints out of a book they often sell collectively for much more than the old book would have sold for alone. While on a vacation in Maine, I came across an 1860 map of California that had apparently come out of a book. It was for sale - for \$100. I didn't buy it, but I did examine it closely. The map was published in New York, so one wonders how accurate the information on the map was. Mapmakers refrain from over crowding a map and sometimes puts in information just because an area of the map would look empty without something. For example, most globes include a place named "Nimule" on the border between Uganda and the Republic of Sudan. Well, I've been there and in 1964 it consisted of five native huts and a guard shack with a limb of a tree to block the border.

The map of California included Santa Barbara and San Buenaventura but did not include Los Angeles. However, what piqued my interest was that the hills from South Mountain (east of Saticoy) across to Santa Susana Pass were labeled "Sierra Susanna." That would imply that in 1860 the hills north of Simi Valley may have been referred to by the Spanish form of the "Susanna Mountains." Other earlier and later maps have no name for the mountains north of the valley but call the hills on the southern side of the valley the "Santa Susana Mountains."

Mike Kuhn



## FEBRUARY HIKES



**Serrano Canyon**, left to right:

Top row: Linda Barry, Raphael Zepeda, Margarita Marsh, Doug Marsh, Roger Steffan, Alan Cueba, and Mike Kuhn.

Bottom row: Bill Cespedes, Cliff Cameron, and Betty Cameron

Photo by Mark Gilmore



**Placerita Canyon – Los Piñetos Trail**, left to right:

Back row: Tom Travis and Mark Scheele.

Middle row: Alan Cueba, Cliff Cameron, Carol Tucker, Linda Travis, Doug Marsh, Raphael Zepeda, and Margarita Marsh.

Bottom row: Betty Cameron.

Photo by Mark Gilmore



**Simi Peak via China Flat Trail**, left to right:

Arlene Altshuler, Doug Marsh, and Margarita Marsh.

Photo by John Sabol



## FEBRUARY WORK PARTY

Our February work party took place on the upper Chumash Trail. After driving to the top, we had a great time grooming the trail. (Yes, it was as windy up there as it was in the valley; however, the temperature was fine.)

A big thank you to Mary Kirby, John Sabol, Alan Cueba, Eric and Jeanne Heideprien and Mike Kuhn. (And a **special** thanks to Mary, Eric and Jeanne, who are non-members.)



**Upper Chumash Trail Work Party**, left to right:

Alan Cueba, Mike Kuhn, Jeanne Heideprien, Eric Heideprien, and Mary Kirby.

Photo by John Sabol

### Did You Know...

**Laurel Sumac** (*Malosma larina*) is a member of the Sumac family (*Anacardiaceae*) family. (Other members of the Sumac family include the Sugar Bush, Lemonade Berry, Poison Oak and the California, i.e., Peruvian, Pepper.) This is large scrub or many stemmed tree with dark green aromatic evergreen leaves. The young leaves and stems are purplish in color. The leaves are oblong-lanceolate, two to four inches long and folded at the midrib. This plant is very sensitive to freezing weather. Plants near canyon bottoms may suffer frost damage every few years. This plant readily crown-sprouts following fires or mechanical removal of the above-ground parts. It provides large dark-green plants throughout the year.



# RSTB Calendar

## March 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> <b>Death Valley</b> <b>See Schedule</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Roger Steffen</i>	<b>2</b> <b>Death Valley</b> <b>See Schedule</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Martin DeGoey</i>	<b>3</b> <b>Death Valley</b> <b>See Schedule</b>
<b>4</b> <b>Death Valley</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>5</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Shareece Veraldi</i>	<b>6</b> <b>Long Canyon</b> <b>6:30pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Chumash Trail</b> <b>6pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Colleen Janssen</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Calabasas Peak</b> <b>See Schedule</b>
<b>11</b> <b>Rocky Peak</b> <b>5pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Long Canyon</b> <b>6:30pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Cathy Rowe</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Chumash Trail</b> <b>6pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Chumash Trail</b> <b>Work Party</b> <b>See Schedule</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Rebecca Shiler</i>
<b>18</b> <b>Rocky Peak</b> <b>5pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>John R. Sabol</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Long Canyon</b> <b>6:30pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>21</b> <b>RSTB Meeting</b> <b>See Page 1</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Chumash Trail</b> <b>6pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Switzer Falls</b> <b>See Schedule</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Rocky Peak</b> <b>5pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Long Canyon</b> <b>6:30pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>28</b> <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Ray Lombardi</i>	<b>29</b> <b>Chumash Trail</b> <b>6pm hike</b> <b>See Schedule</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>O'Melveny Park</b> <b>See Schedule</b>



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## Hiking Schedule



### REGULARLY SCHEDULED HIKES

(Rain cancels – No hikes on holidays)

#### Sunday Evening - Rocky Peak

Meet 4pm 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)

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### MARCH HIKES

**March 1st - 4th - Death Valley Hiking & Camping Trip\*\***  **RESERVATIONS CLOSED**

#### March 10th - Calabasas Peak\*\*

4 - 8 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (950 to 1500' elevation gain)

Steep 2 mile one-way with 950' elevation gain/loss to the peak, with a possible extra 2 mile one way with 550' elevation loss detour into Red Rock Canyon. Meet 8AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 -3 qts. of water and snack, bug juice.

#### March 17th - Work Party - Lower Chumash Trail

Help maintain one of the most traversed trails in Simi Valley. Directions - take 118 Fwy to Yosemite exit. Go north on Yosemite, turn right on Flanagan. We will be working from 8am – 11am. Tools will be provided. Meet at the Chumash Trail trailhead, at the end of Flanagan. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water, hat, sunscreen, and gloves to work on the trail.

#### March 24th - 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. An **Adventure Pass** is required at the trailhead parking lot.


#### March 31st - O'Melveny Park Trail\*\*

7 MRT - Moderate to Strenuous (1200' elevation gain & loss)

See great views of San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys from Mission Point. Meet at 8 AM near Donut Delite at the corner of Madera and Royal. Bring 2 - 3 quarts of water and lunch. Wear boots.

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\*\* 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>



## RANCHO SIMI TRAIL BLAZERS

*A Division of the Rancho Simi Foundation*

Executive Chair:	Mike Kuhn	HM (805) 583-2345	hannahmike@roadrunner.com
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Publicity Chair:		*** OPEN ***	
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)



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