



[CORBA](#) eNews for October 1, 2009

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 **New!** Get this eNewsletter as a **PDF document!**



CORBA board members Louisa Bonnie, Hans Keifer and Danusia Taber attended [Interbike 2009](#) in Las Vegas in September. The purpose of their visit was to advocate and represent the interests of mountain bikers in conversations with bike industry

representatives and meet with other bicycle advocacy organizations to share information, resources and ideas.

Urgent News

Sullivan Canyon Closes Temporarily

The Southern California Gas Company is rebuilding their road in Sullivan Canyon and then reinforcing the high pressure gas pipelines. The work started at the beginning of September and will continue through October or longer. During the work period, the canyon will be completely closed to ensure the safety of the public in a construction area. For more information, see the recent [Sullivan Canyon Alert](#) on our Trail Issues page.

CORBA's Fat Tire Fest 2009 is Here!

CORBA's 2009 Fat Tire Fest and Fundraiser is 3 weeks away! The biggest mountain bike festival in Southern California is celebrating its 22nd year on **Sunday October 25th** at Castaic Lake State Recreation Area. Fun for all ages, the entire family and riders of all skill levels! This year's event is sponsored by REI, Giant, Specialized, Cynergy, WTB, Cannondale and Sette.



This year we have the poker rides for all skill levels in Grasshopper Canyon with extra single track for advanced riders and more easy lakeside terrain for beginners! The direction of travel for all bike routes will be counter clockwise for maximum riding fun and downhill thrills! Guided rides for all skill levels will meet in the main staging area. Check the Fat Tire Fest schedule and events description for all details at www.fattirefest.com.

The Fat Tire Fest will feature the hottest new demo bikes from Giant, Specialized, Cannondale, and Trek that you can test ride in Grasshopper Canyon. Plus check out all the great bike gear and accessories from all our other exhibitors and vendors!

Put your bike handling skills to the test in the Bike Limbo Contest, the Bike Warrior Wheelie Contest, the Cynergy Hill Climb Contest and in the Skills Features area! Learn techniques and bike handling tips from the Skills Clinic with Mark Langton and guest riders from Trek and [SoCal Interscholastic Cycling League](http://www.socalintercollegiatecyclingleague.com)! All riders welcome!



NEW Kids Fun Zone! - Come play all day on the specially designed kid size skills features!



NEW Kids Bike Parade! Come decorate your bike and join the parade of the main staging area! Decoration materials provided.



WIN! WIN! WIN! Great prizes such as these in the giant raffle!

Specialized Rockhopper
Expert 29er



Santa Cruz Chameleon Frame 2009



Sette Impulse Carbon Mtn Frame



WIN! Great schwag from.....



WTB



trekwomen
WOMEN WHO RIDE CLUB



cynergy
CYCLES



Come out and join a fun-filled day of mountain bike action by picturesque Lake Castaic on Sunday October 25th! Thank you for supporting CORBA's 22nd Annual fundraiser! All proceeds go towards CORBA's all volunteer community programs and mountain bike trail advocacy in Los Angeles and the surrounding area. For all event details and information go to: www.corbamt.com or

www.fattirefest.com. Contact info: ftf@corbamt.com or 818-206-8213.

Register online until October 20th with [PayPal](#) or [Active.com](#); **register early and get more free raffle tickets!** Or print the [PDF Form](#), fill it out and mail it in!

Upcoming Trailwork

October 17th - Nineteenth Annual COSCA Trail Work Day and Lunch

Join CORBA, the Santa Monica Mountains Trail Council, Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency and other volunteers groups to work on the Conejo Open Space trails. This is a great event with many volunteers. Registration is at 7:30 am, board busses to trails by 8:00. A breakfast snack will be provided. Tools and instructions will be provided at the trailheads. There will be a free thank you lunch after trail work and the chance to win a new mountain bike donated by Giant Bicycle. (You must have participated in trail work and be present to win.)

Directions: Meet at Conejo Community Center Park ([Google map and directions](#)) in Thousand Oaks. Exit 101 Freeway at Lynn Rd. and head north. Turn right on Gainsborough Rd., then right at the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden sign (just past the 7th Day Adventist Church).

Get further details from the [Conejo Open Space Foundation Trail Work Page](#) and photos from [previous COSCA trailwork events](#).

Why do Trailwork? If you've ever wondered this, take a look at [this article](#) in the Summer 2008 issue of Terra Times to learn more about why it's important. Visit the [CORBA Trail Crew page](#) for more information and links to photos of past events.

Other News

Follow CORBA on Twitter

We have set up an account with Twitter to help keep people informed of the latest developments in our trail advocacy, the [Fat Tire Fest](#), recreational rides and trailwork days. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/CORBAMtb.



Take A Kid Mountain Biking Day - Saturday October 3.



In conjunction with the [IMBA's Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day](#) event, CORBA will be having a fun ride at [Malibu Creek State Park](#) at 9:00 am. The ride will be followed by a barbecue. Kids must have their own bikes and helmets. All ages are welcome! If your Kids are too young to ride, feel free to bring a bike trailer or trail-a-bike and tow them along. These can be your own kids, nieces, nephews, friends kids, neighbor's kids... There will be a few different ride options for different age

groups. Feel free to participate even if you don't have any kids to bring.

Childhood obesity in the United States has reached an all-time high. Experts say that the current generation of U.S. children could actually have a shorter life expectancy than their parents. IMBA and CORBA believe mountain biking can help reverse this trend. We need your help to get kids back on bikes. Please RSVP to Danusia at danusia@corbamt.com if you plan on attending.

Not sure how much your kids will love this? You can view photos from the 2008 event in our [photos gallery](#).

Sin Nombre and Two Foxes trails to remain open.

By Mark Langton

In May 2009, CORBA was told by California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) that two trails in [Pt. Mugu State Park](#) – [Sin Nombre](#) and [Two Foxes](#), which have been open to mountain bikes as a result of CORBA's efforts years ago – would be closed to bikes because the trails had never been officially opened to them. CORBA representatives met with CDPR rangers at the end of July to discuss this situation. We had gathered historical information supporting our position that the trails had been officially opened and presented it at the meeting. CDPR Superintendent Al Pepito informed us that the trails are multi-use as we contended. The misunderstanding was due to an error in the trail use designation on the maps used in the National Park Service (NPS) Inter-agency Regional Trail Management Plan ([TMP](#)). CORBA and others had previously informed the NPS of the error. Due to lack of funding, the planning project had come to a halt, so the maps had not been updated. NPS now has funding and the planning process is moving forward.

Due to CORBA's efforts, Sin Nombre and Two Foxes will remain open to mountain bikes.

Fire and Red Flag Warnings

As autumn approaches with hot, dry Santa Ana winds, remember to check for park closures before you head for your favorite trail. During the Red Flag conditions, park agencies are asking the public to avoid going into the backcountry. With the fire danger rating fluctuating between high and extremely high it is prudent for recreational users to avoid going into the backcountry for safety reasons. If fires were to start in areas of the backcountry, rescue could be hampered because of poor access to these areas. Also, it could be difficult to notify recreational users who are already in the backcountry of a wildfire that has just started. So as a preventative measure, fire information officers are advising everyone not to head to these remote areas unless it's absolutely necessary.

Here's where you can check for park closures:

- NPS Information Line: (805) 370-2300
- California State Parks Fire Information Line: (805) 488-8147
- For NPS fire closures, check this web site: <http://www.nps.gov/samo/parkhomeclosuresrestrictions.htm>
- National Weather Service Red Flag Warnings Web Site: <http://fire.boi.noaa.gov/FIREWX/LAXFWFLOX.html>

New Free Online Magazine from Britain: International Mountainbike Magazine

A new MTB magazine was launched last week. [IMBIKEMAG](#) is a free magazine aimed at the regular weekend rider, the first issue is full of

articles, videos, tests, technique and interviews. It is available online only. Check out the [first issue!](#)

CycleFest 2009 to feature Bob “Bobke” Roll

CycleFest 2009, a fundraiser for the [SoCal Interscholastic Cycling League](#), will take place at the historic Queen Mary Hotel on November 21 and is titled “Bobke on a Boat.”



California native Bob Roll is a former professional cyclist, turning professional with the 7-Eleven Cycling Team. Later in his career Bobke discovered mountain biking and competed on the professional circuit for 8 years until finally retiring in 1998. While Bobke never claimed to be the fastest cyclist, his unmatched story-telling ability made him a hit with the fans and led him to a spot on television, commentating on professional cycling events, including the Tour de France, throughout the world.

Bobke is a larger than life personality, topped only by his own sideburns. To hear him speak of his experiences, whether it be at the Tour de France or in the Appalachians of North Carolina on a monsoon-like training ride, Bobke uses his humor, wit and downright outlandish style to capture any audience.

Bobke’s attendance at the SoCal League’s CycleFest 2009 will help the League reach it’s fundraising goal of \$30,000.

The event will feature several internationally known SoCal based cyclists will be in attendance including multi-time world champion Brian Lopes, ultra-endurance champion Pua Sawicki, and Olympian Sid Taberlay. The event will also feature a silent auction and a catered dinner. All proceeds from the tickets sales and the silent auction will go toward supporting the SoCal Interscholastic Cycling League.

Tickets are on sale and cost \$150. Patron tickets, which include preferred seating and special gifts, are \$195. Purchase tickets before October 2nd and pay only \$125 for regular or \$170 for Patron tickets. For tickets and additional information visit www.socaldirt.org.

FRS Healthy Energy Supports CORBA

When you order FRS Healthy Energy products online, as CORBA members you will get a 25% discount when you enter the special coupon code, and CORBA will receive a 5% contribution. [Details.](#)

California State Parks Wants Public Input on Future of Topanga State Park

California State Parks has announced that it will be holding public meetings to begin the process of preparing a new General Plan to guide future use of Topanga State Park. The purpose for the public process is to develop a cohesive and comprehensive general plan that reconciles the outdated Topanga State Park General Development Plan created in 1977. It will incorporate the cultural and natural resources, features and facilities of recent acquisitions, including the 1,659 acres of Lower Topanga Canyon. What State Parks planners intend to do is create a comprehensive plan that gathers up the disconnected parts and viewpoints, corrects obvious deficiencies, considers evolving land-use relationships, and creates a planning structure that



**Caballero Canyon in
Topanga State Park**

reflects this great park as a whole.

Mountain bikers should go to these meetings and urge that the [trails currently closed to bikes](#) be opened, and ask for a connecting singletrack trail to Temescal Canyon Park.

Topanga State Park General Plan Meeting #1: The first meeting was held this past Tuesday the 29th. Park Service officials provided a 45 minute presentation describing the General Plan process and an overview of the park's resources including recreational uses, historical and cultural resources, wildlife and species of concern, archaeological resources and more. Topanga State park is a resource-rich park and one of the original cornerstone parks of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area. Following the presentations, the crowd of 51 was deployed into four workshop areas where conversation took place and public comments were received by park service officials. At each workshop area, certain questions were presented and participants' park experiences and suggestions were logged. Things that were suggested by CORBA, for example, were park interpretive tours on mountain bike, as well as more backcountry trail access.

The General Plan will be the Park's road map for the next 20 years. The General Plan process will be combined with the environmental review process required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Currently, the Park Service is collecting information regarding inventory of resources and public input regarding issues and wants/needs for the Park. Two more public meetings will be scheduled, followed by the release of the Preliminary General Plan/Draft Environmental Impact Report. This document will be available for public review prior to moving to the final stages of the planning process. We will keep you apprised of the next meetings and issues, but we urge you to get involved and invest some of your time to help shape the future of your local state park.

Futher meetings are planned but not yet announced. More details can be found on the [Topanga State Park General Plan](#) web page.

New on the CORBA Website

- [Fat Tire Fest eFlash](#) - September 30
- [San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resources Study](#) - September 3, 2009
- [September Skills Clinic Photos](#)

Recreational Rides

For a list of upcoming recreational rides, please visit the [CORBA Calendar](#).

Free Mountain Biking Skills Clinic

Saturday October 3rd is the next skills clinic.

The CORBA free skills clinic is held on the first Saturday of every month at

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Malibu Creek State Park.

Mountain biking is a lot like tennis or skiing. Just a few minor adjustments in technique can make a huge difference in your control and proficiency. If you want to get better faster, you need to know the fundamentals of mountain biking technique. Whether you're just getting into mountain biking or have been riding for years, you'll learn some valuable tips from our Introduction to Mountain Biking skills class that is offered each month. Check out our [Skills Clinic web page](#) for all the information. After the clinic, see photos of your new skills on the CORBA web site that you can share with your family and friends!

Monthly Beginner Ride

CORBA holds a recreational bike ride for beginners the second Saturday of every month, a week after the Skills Clinic. This is the perfect opportunity for the clinic attendees to practice their new skills! But you don't need to attend the Skills Clinic before you come on this ride; everyone is welcome. This is a great ride for first-timers to the CORBA recreational rides. The ride leader will go over the basics of riding a mountain bike along the route. Check the [Calendar](#) for details.

Follow CORBA on Twitter

We have set up an account with Twitter to help keep people informed of the latest developments in our trail advocacy, recreational rides and trailwork days. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/CORBAmtb.



Support CORBA

Join or Renew your membership today on our [membership web page](#).

Join Our Team! Do you have any ideas about mountain biking recreation in the L.A. region? Would you like to apply your skills and manage projects that contribute to the sport and lifestyle that you love? Is there an advocate in you? We are recruiting motivated individuals who work well with others. Send an email to info@corbamb.com or come to a monthly Members Meeting to find out more about what we do and how you can help. Check the [calendar](#) for the next meeting.

Other simple ways to support CORBA

- [FRS Healthy Energy](#): Get a 25% discount and also help CORBA
- [JensonUSA](#): Shop for bikes, parts and accessories and help CORBA
- [Ralphs grocery stores](#): Use your Ralphs card and help CORBA
- [Albertsons' grocery stores](#): Use your Albertsons' card and help CORBA

- [GoodSearch internet search](#): Search the internet and help CORBA
- [GoodShop online shopping](#): Shop at your favorite online retailers and help CORBA
- [Phones For Good](#): Help CORBA when you get your next cell phone
- [Holmes Body Shop](#): Get that dent fixed and help CORBA

(Click on the links above to get more details!)

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