



CORBA eTerraTimes for May 2011

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Kids getting a good workout on a pump track. Can we get one in Thousand Oaks? [See story](#).



[Proper Trail Etiquette](#)

A Message from CORBA's President

By Mark Langton

If a demonstrated need in the community is the main criteria for building a bike park (pump track, jumps, skills area), then the City of Thousand Oaks should be at the top of the list. Jumps and mini-pump tracks are all over the place, yet they keep getting bulldozed because the community has not supported the youth who are putting in the effort to do something constructive. THE TIME IS NOW!

This is of course my local perspective because I see kids every day on mountain bikes and BMX bikes riding around our neighborhoods, trails, and yes, unauthorized dirt jumps. And I know a lot of parents who's teenage kids go riding with them. I bet you know people just like that in your neighborhood.

The [Socal High School Cycling League](#) built a pump track in Riverside recently [with CORBA's help](#). The city of Glendale is [considering a bike park and pump track in their trails master plan](#).

There are parks and tracks all over the state. IMBA has had success in several cities including New York, Seattle, and Golden, Colorado. We're not reinventing the wheel. [Click here for the the Bring the Riding To the People project](#).



Unidentified jumps in Newbury Park



The author circa 1972.

A bike park can be as simple as a pump track (rollers, bermed turns, table top and gap jumps), but can also include skill test features similar to what might be found on a trail. A supervised environment similar to a skate park, the Conejo Recreation and Park District (CRPD) already has an infrastructure to deal with this kind of facility. Bike parks encourage volunteerism and stewardship. They provide an area for adult mountain bikers wanting to improve their skills and also help their kids learn, and an athletic/exercise outlet for youth who do not participate in team sports. And they're just plain fun! Not only that, they do not require the same kind of space, materials, or costs associated with ball fields or other conventional recreational facilities.

Watch a video of the [Stowe Bike Park pump track](#) in action.

Representatives from CORBA have discussed the possibility of a bike park with the CRPD. CRPD managers are amenable to the idea, but stress that the only way something can be done is through community support and commitment. This would require attendance at [CRPD board meetings](#) by kids as well as parents and other interested parties to provide testimony and petitions, and other community support (such as bike shops, YMCA, teen centers, schools, etc); not to mention supporting testimony from such organizations as

CORBA citing the success of tracks and parks in other cities. This process typically takes 3-5 years, so strong parental involvement is key. Again, CRPD is open to the idea and there are several possible locations, we just need community involvement! We could also use people with expertise in landscape architecture.

If you are interested in becoming part of a team to bring a pump track to Thousand Oaks, please get in touch with us at

volunteer@corbamt.com.

A New Look and Chapter for CORBA



In late December 2010 CORBA [announced it was applying](#) to become a chapter of the International Mountain Bicycling Association. The transformation is now complete, and CORBA is now a Chapter of IMBA. The partnership creates a stronger, unified voice for mountain bikers by linking our data base with IMBA's, to name but one of several benefits that will enable CORBA to better serve off-road bicyclists in Los Angeles and Ventura

Counties and surrounding areas.

Becoming an IMBA Chapter affiliate does not change CORBA's local efforts and relationships with other advocacy groups and land managers. In fact, it will strengthen our efforts. Now when you [join CORBA](#), you will also be getting an IMBA membership as well. And if you join IMBA, you have the opportunity to indicate CORBA as your local affiliate. Join or renew today and help us keep your local trails open to bicycles!

New Riders Join CORBA Kids Club in Cheeseboro Canyon

April's CORBA Kids ride welcomed four new riders! Despite record heat two days prior, the weather was cool and comfortable. We had such a successful ride in Cheeseboro that we are going to ride it again next month.

Before riding, ride leaders David and Larry introduced themselves to the new riders and briefed the group on trail etiquette, speed control, and described the trail.

See our [blog article on the Kids Club Ride](#) for the full story! (The next ride is Saturday, May 7th. [Register online to get full details.](#))

New CORBA Jerseys Still Available

Don't forget to check out our [CORBA store](#) to see our latest additions. These attractive and comfortable [jerseys](#) come in two styles, club cut (men's and women's) and freeride (baggy, 3/4 sleeve). Free shipping on all orders has been extended! And don't overlook our [new T-shirts](#), either!

Free shipping is extended to June 1, 2011!



Upcoming and Recent Trailwork

For many years, most trailwork has been done by volunteers because of budget cutbacks at our parks systems. So come out and help CORBA and other volunteers keep our trails in top riding shape! You can learn more about what to expect and what you'll need to bring with you on our [Trailwork web page](#). Keep in mind that CORBA now provides prizes and lunch



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after the event for volunteers who [register in advance](#)! And by registering in advance, you'll help us prepare by knowing how many volunteers to expect. If you come out to two or more trailwork days in a year, we'll give you a cool long-sleeved CORBA trail crew shirt - be sure to ask for yours!

April 23: Backbone Trail near Latigo Canyon Road

Five CORBA volunteers and about eight with the Santa Monica Mountains Trails Council ([SMMTC](#)) trail crew worked together to clear brush on the section of the [Backbone Trail from Latigo Canyon Road](#) west to the bottom of Newton Canyon. The SMMTC crew focused on clearing out the invasive thistle and other low brush while the CORBA crew cut out the higher branches that would slap riders in the body and face as they rode down the trail.

View our [blog article for the full BBT story](#), a list of prize winners and the photo gallery.

April 29 - May 1: Annual Santa Monica Mountains Trails Days

This is a weekend event with CORBA, SMMTC and other trail user groups with camping at Danielson Ranch in [Point Mugu State Park](#).

This is a weekend event with these activities:

- **Friday Night: Overnight camping**
- **Saturday: Trailwork**
- **Saturday Night: Prize giveaway, dinner provided and overnight camping**
- **Sunday: Trailwork in the morning**

You can come in Friday night and stay until Sunday or leave Saturday after trail maintenance. Some people just come in for Saturday. There will be a dinner and prize giveaway on Saturday evening. For more details and to register, visit our [Santa Monica Mountains Trailwork registration page](#).

To see all trailwork dates, including those of other groups, visit the [CORBA trailwork calendar](#).

General News

Urgent Meeting Regarding MTB Access in Palos Verdes

Palos Verdes Nature Preserve State Of The Preserve Workshop Saturday, April 30, 2011 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes will be collecting public input at this workshop to prepare recommendations for amendments to the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve Trails Plan. This will include trail use changes and the Filiorum Reserve. The City Council will then consider the recommendations later this summer.

In the past, opponents of off-road bicycling have turned out in large numbers, so it is crucial for lots of cyclists to attend. This is a great opportunity for those who otherwise feel intimidated by public speaking to voice their opinions. Typically, small groups sit at table to discuss

topics. No public speaking is needed. [See full blog article for more information.](#)

Do you want more trails to ride? Do you want to ride trails in the newly created Filiorum Reserve? CORBA PV will be posting recommendations and suggestions soon.

Please join the CORBA-Palos Verdes mailing list to keep posted on the latest information. info@mtbpv.org.

New on the CORBA Website

- [Santa Monica Mountains Trails Days April 29 to May 1 – Join us!](#)
- [Urgent Meeting Regarding MTB Access in Palos Verdes on Saturday April 30](#)
- [Thousand Oaks Needs a Bike Park](#) - April 24
- [Backbone Trailwork Near Latigo Cyn Rd Summary and Photo Gallery](#) - April 23
- [Brand Motorway closed for “Run the Verdugos” Sunday May 1st](#)
- [Bike Park Project Introduced to Glendale Commission](#) - April 21
- [Friends of the Angeles Formation Meetings](#) - April 18
- [New Riders Join CORBA Kids Club in Cheeseboro Canyon](#) - April 16
- [Hikers, Bikers and Equestrians Share Trails](#) - April 11
- [Photos of April Kids Club Ride in Cheeseboro Canyon](#) - April 5
- [Angeles National Forest Recovery Meeting](#) - April 4
- [Skills Clinic photos for April](#)
- [A New Look and Chapter for CORBA](#) - April 1
- [Franklin Canyon Fundraiser](#) - April 1

Recreational Rides

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

- Next **CORBA Kids Club ride** will be Saturday May 7. [Details and registration.](#)
- Next **CORBA Meet the Board** ride will be Saturday May 7. [Details.](#)
- Next **Beginners ride** will be Saturday May 21. See our [Rides Calendar](#) for details.

CORBA's [Recreational Rides calendar](#) provides a full monthly schedule of mountain bike rides for all skill levels. Mountain bike rides are organized by CORBA member clubs and led by experienced and knowledgeable guides. Recreational rides are a fun and social way to experience a variety of trails in Los Angeles and Ventura counties, and beyond.

Free Mountain Biking Skills Clinic

Saturday May 7th is the next skills clinic.

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



Follow CORBA on Twitter and Facebook

We have set up accounts with Twitter and Facebook 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 and Facebook at facebook.com/CORBAMTB.



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Have you ever wished you could get our blog articles without having to check the CORBA website every day to see if there's anything new? Well, you can! Even though our blog software won't send articles by email, you can still get them delivered to the inbox of most email readers like Microsoft Outlook. You use the "RSS feed" functionality for this. In fact, you can read our articles in any software that receives RSS feeds, such as Internet Explorer and other web browsers. This [blog article on RSS feeds](#) shows you how.

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@corbamt.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
- [GoodSearch internet search](#): Search the internet and help CORBA
- [GoodShop online shopping](#): Shop at your favorite online retailers and help CORBA
- [Holmes Body Shop](#): Get that dent fixed and help CORBA

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

CORBA News eMail List

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