

# TERRA TIMES

The official publication of the Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association

Winter 2007

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CORBA is committed to gaining and maintaining mountain bike access to trails in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas through education, information and preservation

## 2007 Fat Tire Fest Sets Attendance Record!

On October 14th CORBA celebrated its 20th year of mountain biking advocacy and community programs, and what a celebration it was! The 2007 Fat Tire Fest was a huge success with over 600 attendees, volunteers and bike industry reps and exhibitors, making The 2007 FTF our largest ever!

See complete story inside.



CORBA's

# FAT TIRE FEST

&

# 2007

## 20TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

The weather was perfect for riding and festivities which included the Poker Ride, Hill Climb contest, Wheelie Contest, Log-Pull contest, Mountain Biking Skills Clinic, great food, cake and Raffle. Downhill Champion Kathy Pruitt rode with mountain bikers through Malibu Creek State Park to the top of Bulldog, then joined Mark Langton in an informative and inspiring mountain biking skills clinic. Thanks to all who came out to support CORBA and enjoy great riding and festivities. For more information and to view pictures, visit [www.fattirefest.com](http://www.fattirefest.com), sponsored by Code Roop Web Design.

And a huge THANK YOU to all of the companies who participated in this year's FTF! Please support these companies and stores when you get the chance, as they support CORBA and our efforts to keep the trails open for everyone.

Special thanks to pro rider and downhill champion Kathy Pruitt for her participation!



Hill Climb Contest — sponsored by Cynergy



## CORBA 2007 FTF Sponsors

Accelerade  
 Agoura Cycles  
 All Pro bikes\*  
 Atomlab \*  
 Bicycle John's \*  
 Big Bear Mountain Resort  
 Bike Warrior\*  
 Bionicon \*  
 B.O.M.B.  
 Cannondale \*  
 Clif Bar\*  
 Cole Wheels \*  
 Cynergy Cycles\*  
 Evomo\*  
 Giant\*  
 Helen's Cycles  
 Ice Toolz  
 IMBA\*  
 Jenson USA  
 KHS\*  
 New Belgium Brewing\*  
 Niner Bikes\*  
 Pasadena Cyclery\*  
 Promologic  
 REI\*  
 Resource Revival  
 Rocky Mountain Cycles\*  
 Santa Cruz Bicycles  
 Scott USA\*  
 Simi Cycling Center  
 Specialized \*  
 Spinner  
 Trader Joes  
 Trek \*  
 Westlake Cyclery  
 Whistler.com  
 \* Indicated companies that exhibited, had demo bikes and or other equipment



**Wheelie Contest**  
 — sponsored by  
**Bike Warrior**



# Doing Your Part To Reduce Damage From Wildfires

**The fire season may be ending, but MTB riders' responsibilities are just beginning**

by Jeff Klinger

**S**outhern California is a fire-prone area characterized by an extended dry season and dense chaparral vegetation that dries out from spring through fall. Fire is a natural part of the Chaparral plant community life cycle, burning once every 30 years on average. Southern California experiences intense Santa Ana winds typically in the fall and into winter. Santa Ana's originate over the desert at altitudes upwards of 3,000 feet and the air mass travels towards the coast at sea level. As the air travels down slope, it heats up and dries out. Combine these strong, hot, dry winds with dry, waxy vegetation, and we have extremely high fire potential.

In LA County, fire danger is assessed by measuring the moisture content of vegetation. When plant samples have a moisture content of less than 60%, fire danger is considered critical. This normally occurs in September, but according to the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA), we

reached this level by mid-June. The rains that we received in early Fall were not enough to curtail the conditions of extreme fire danger, and were not enough to prevent the tragic Southern California fires of October and November.

Red Flag Days are determined by the level of fire danger being HIGH or EXTREME, combined with Red Flag weather criteria provided by the National Weather Service. The local Red Flag weather criteria are any one of the following:

- Relative humidity of 15% or less with either sustained winds of 25mph or greater, or frequent gusts of 35mph or greater for six hours or more;
- Relative humidity of 10% or less for 10 hours or more;
- Widespread and/or significant dry lightning.

As mountain bikers, there are a few things that we need to be aware of.

- On hot and windy days, check the news and weather reports for Red Flag warnings, or call State Parks at (805) 488-8147.
- Avoid park areas that are closed, both for your personal safety and because if a fire breaks out, agencies

may have to allocate their resources to evacuate you, rather than deploying those resources elsewhere.

Following a fire, trails may not be opened for weeks. According to the MRCA, several things need to occur before park areas are deemed safe to re-open. Agency personnel need to

make sure the fire is completely out (tree trunks and roots can smolder for weeks) and that trail hazards are alleviated or removed. In addition, surviving animals need time to relocate without the additional stress of human intrusion. And, when the parks re-open, it is more important than ever to stay on established trails to allow for natural regenera-

tion of the ecosystem to occur and to avoid causing erosion, especially with winter rains approaching.

As users of the backcountry, it is important for mountain bikers to act responsibly, not only when riding, but also by knowing when not to ride. Part of our continuing effort to gain access to more trails is demonstrating to both land managers and other users of the trails that we are responsible members of the trails community, and that we will treat the backcountry with the respect that is required to preserve it.

**WHEN THE PARKS REOPEN, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER TO STAY ON ESTABLISHED TRAILS TO AVOID CAUSING ADDITIONAL EROSION, ESPECIALLY WITH WINTER RAINS APPROACHING.**

## CORBA Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (c) \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I'd like to lend a hand. Contact me about volunteer opportunities.

**Tell a friend.** Send CORBA information to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

CORBA is a tax exempt "501(c)(3)" organization. Your donation to CORBA is tax deductible. Your dues will be used to promote trail access and other interests of mountain bicyclists in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas.

Annual Membership \_\_\_New \_\_\_Renewal

\_\_\_ **Basic:** \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Supportor** \$50 (includes, t-shirt) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (indicate shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_ )

\_\_\_ **Carbon Fiber** \$75 (includes, t-shirt, bike bell) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (indicate shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_ )

\_\_\_ **Titanium** \$100 (includes, t-shirt, bike bell, CORBA socks) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (indicate shirt size: \_\_\_\_\_ and sock size \_\_\_\_\_ )

\_\_\_ CORBA Bike Bell(s) @ \$5 ea. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ CORBA T-Shirt(s) @ \$15 ea (size \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ CORBA Socks @ \$6 ea (size \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to do more to keep trails open with an additional donation of : \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to CORBA and mail to: CORBA, P.O. Box 57576, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413. **Thank you! Welcome to CORBA.**

# CORBA's Retail Partnership Program Rolls Along

## CORBA Members Save on Products and Services

**J**oining CORBA means more than just supporting trails. Your membership also entitles you to discounts at retailers throughout Southern California. These retailers have chosen to support CORBA and our common goal of gaining and maintaining access to trails. Shop at these stores and support those who support us!

The list is growing so be sure to check our website for the latest information ([www.corbamtb.com/membership/benefits.shtml](http://www.corbamtb.com/membership/benefits.shtml)).

Don't see your favorite shop listed? Helps us get them on board. Start by asking them if they support CORBA, then let us know who'd you like to add.

### Shop

- Agoura Cycles** (Agoura)
- Bike & Bean** (Sedona, AZ)
- The Bike Shop** (Hermosa Beach)
- Bike Warrior** (Tarzana)
- Boulevard Cycles** (Sherman Oaks)
- Europa Bicycle Center** (Van Nuys)
- Evomo Clothing** (Online)
  
- Glendale Cyclery** (Glendale)
- Jones Bicycles II** (San Marino)
- Pasadena Cyclery** (Pasadena)
- PV Bicycle Center** (Rolling Hills Estates)
- Spoke & Wheel** (West Hills)
- Stan's Monrovia Bikes** (Monrovia)
- Wheel World** (Woodland Hills & Culver City)

### Contact

- [www.agouracycles.com](http://www.agouracycles.com)
- [www.bike-bean.com](http://www.bike-bean.com)
- [www.theoldbikeshop.com](http://www.theoldbikeshop.com)
- [www.bikewarrior.com](http://www.bikewarrior.com)
- [www.blvdcycles.com](http://www.blvdcycles.com)
- (818) 785-6112
- [www.evomo.com](http://www.evomo.com)
- (Promo Code: CORBASAVESTRAILS)
- (818) 246-5551
- (626) 793-4227
- [www.pasadenacyclery.com](http://www.pasadenacyclery.com)
- (310) 377-7441
- (818) 703-0155
- [www.stansmonroviabikes.com](http://www.stansmonroviabikes.com)
- [www.wheelworld.com](http://www.wheelworld.com)

## Sponsor Spotlight LOMBARD GRAPHICS

Lombard Graphics has been a long-time supporter of CORBA by donating their printing services. We recently asked vice president Ross Lombard to share some thoughts on his mountain biking experiences.

**Terra Times:** What type of services do you offer?

**Ross Lombard:** We are a family-owned, commercial printing company located in Pico Rivera. We print everything from simple business cards to full color brochures. Our clients are mid to large sized industrial companies based in the Los Angeles area. My father started the company in 1978, so we are coming up on our 30th year in business. I've been working there for 21 years. I'm vice president of the company, and focus on outside sales and client relations.

**TT:** How did you start mountain biking?

**RL:** I started mountain biking 11 years ago. My younger brother got me into it. I borrowed a bike, put on hiking boots and a day pack, then climbed up Sullivan Canyon in the Santa Monicas. I thought it was a great experience... the challenge of the climb and the thrill of the downhill. A

couple of days later, we went to Performance Bike and bought a rigid chromoly frame bike for \$400. I was officially a mountain biker.

**TT:** Any favorite rides?

**RL:** I love riding the Verdugo's because I can start from home. Chaney Trail to Inspiration Point and Mill Creek Summit are favorites too. I also do quite a bit of road bike riding. I really enjoy the organized charity rides in Solvang, Palm Springs and Ventura.

**TT:** How long have you been involved with CORBA?

**RL:** I learned about CORBA from Hans Kiefer (CORBA board member and Trail Crew leader) after joining Over The Bars Mountain Bike Club in 2003.

**TT:** Why did you choose to sponsor CORBA?

**RL:** CORBA members stand and fight for better trail access, and dispel the myth that mountain bikers damage the wilderness. I admire the work of the members, and am pleased that we can donate our printing services for such a good cause.



**CORBA Information**

818-773-3555  
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 www.corbamt.com

**Membership Services**

membership@corbamt.com

**Terra Times Newsletter**

David Ross  
 terratimes@corbamt.com

**Trail Building & Maintenance**

Hans Keifer  
 trailcrew@corbamt.com

**Youth Adventures**

Holly Harman  
 818-882-2839  
 youth@corbamt.com

**Skills Classes**

Mark Langton  
 805-558-1606  
 mtbskills@corbamt.com

**Fun Rides**

South Bay Mountain  
 Bike Club  
 Louisa Bonnie  
 mtbike4@verizon.net  
 www.smbmc.com

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

California Department  
 of Parks & Recreation  
 818-880-0350  
 dpree@parks.ca.gov  
 Fire Closure Info  
 805-488-8147

*The message changes every  
 day at 2 p.m. It is illegal to  
 ride in the parks when they  
 are closed due to high fire  
 danger.*

National Park Service  
 805-370-2300  
 www.nps.gov/samo

Santa Monica  
 Mountains Conservancy  
 310-589-3200  
 www.smmc.ca.gov

**CORBA is committed to:**

1. Maintaining access to and gaining access to trails in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas, through education, information and preservation.
2. Educating mountain bicyclists in the safe and appropriate use of mountain bikes.
3. Contributing to the building and maintaining of riding areas in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas.

Conejo Open Space  
 Conservation Agency  
 805-495-6471  
 Ranger office 805-381-2741  
 www.cosf.org

Mountain Bike Unit  
 Terry Harman  
 818-882-2839  
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