

# THE TRAILBLAZER SINGLETRACK



The Fort Hood TrailBlazers; an MWR activity

#2, MARCH 1, 2002

## Up-coming events

Barbecue and more

TO Ride, and ride some more—trails of all types. Ride is what we do—it's what we like and what we need.

On non-race Sundays there will usually be a ride at BLORA at 1330. Watch email for an announcement of an end of race season picnic and ride—we plan on inviting some of the other Central Texas clubs to join in on this fun day.

Occasionally there will be an out of town ride. This year we have already gone to San Antonio and rode with the S.T.O.R.M. and their guest, Tinker Juarez.

After daylight savings time commences we may have an evening ride once or twice a week. If there is a preference for days let us know. Mondays and Thursdays have worked well in the past.

If anyone has good lights and wants to do an occasional night ride, we can do that too.

This is your club—you just gotta let us know:  
[TESTA29@aol.com](mailto:TESTA29@aol.com)

Did we mention how important email is??!

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### **Trail Work Happenin's**

With race season well under way, and personal commitments, trail work has been scarce. Rain also washed away a few planned work days. Surprisingly the trails are in pretty decent shape as far as riding quality. However, there are always environmental concerns to worry about, not to mention with warmer weather approaching; frequent trimming will be a requirement.

So when you get an email mentioning trail work, please lend a few hours of your time.

Tentative planned work days can be found on the main page of the website.

### **RECRUITING UPDATE**

The email to all in-boxes on Ft Hood via the Phantom Distribution method finally went out after mid February. Also BLORA advertised the Trailblazers in their monthly publication: What's Happening, February edition.

Flyers are to go up in local bike shops during March.

The website address has been changed to the correct URL on many other clubs' sites. Additionally a google or similar search will readily yield the new site.

Hopefully when full year memberships start being sold by BLORA again in April there will be many purchasers.

Members be sure to email Cliff at [TESTA29@aol.com](mailto:TESTA29@aol.com) to be added to the club email list so you will know first hand of all goings on!

### **JERSEY'S**

So you wanna jersey like you see some of the club guys wearing on the trails.

What you have to do is go to [velowear.com](http://velowear.com) and purchase a Texas state jersey. Also go to Walmart and buy an iron on transfer kit—make sure it is “cool transfer” type.

Once that is done contact Cliff who will verify you are an annual member and then can send you a file and instructions. See the jerseys on our photo page on the website.

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### Other Goins' On

So besides racing and an out of town ride what else happened, you query?

?? 16 FEB—the Lajitas Alternative Ride.

This one didn't go out via email as it was last minute almost. And our great prez can't do it all via one email account. So be sure to check out the web site, too. You never know when there may be somethin' there that's not been announced elsewhere.

Anyway, Leighton, Bobby D and Charles from D.O.R.B.A joined us for rides at BLORA and Dana Peak that fine afternoon. Pete had is usual rough ride at the Peak—Leighton lived up to his name and bled—and so did his bike.

It was a great outing and meeting new folks was great.

?? I, the web guy, have—or well used to have, a totaled Sunfire. Look for me in a 2002 Subaru Outback soon; I was pining for one anyway. Can you say the insurance check and the IMBA VIP letter ought to be here soon?

### RACE SCENE

Although racing is not what the majority of mountain bikers wanna do, many find it's fun after they give it a whirl. It is a great way to meet people, visit different parts of the state, and improve skills.

Check out the Texas racing scene further at [www.TMBRA.com](http://www.TMBRA.com) You will find the current schedule, a racer forum, and even advice for beginners.

Our club is represented by Cliff and his children, Elizabeth and Chris. Pete and Rich also race in the beginner class.

There are likely others—did we mention if you are paid members—the importance of email and getting involved in club activities. It is a benefit. Yeah mountain biking can be enjoyed solo—but it's even better as part of a group.

Off track there for a moment. Let's get back on the fast single track. Elizabeth and Chris are near the top of their class and are to be congratulated. These two fine Trailblazers tear it up faster every year. Rich in his very first race at Rocky Hill got a mid pack finish.

So come out to the races and look for the Trailblazer banner—usually located in the camping area.

*Speaking of IMBA, why not join today! Or well right after you join the Trailblazers!!*

*IMBA is the premier agency that lobbies to keep trails open to mountain biking. Your yearly dues help assure their continued advocacy. Not to mention you will be eligible for some great bennies like stickers, socks, newsletters, cool card to carry in wallet—-and did I mention after 6 months you are eligible to get a Subaru for dealer invoice?*

See [WWW.IMBA.COM](http://WWW.IMBA.COM) for all the details. Help them work for YOU!!!

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## TMBRA Paydirt

For those of you new to the Texas Mountain Bike racing scene, Paydirt reward Texas racers with 1st place points in the Texas State Championship Series for ensuring the future of this great sport. All you have to do is complete at least 10 hours of authorized trail maintenance or construction on qualified trails.

Paydirt points can be accumulated throughout the year and postmarked by 1 May 2002. Any trail workdays at the Trailblazers Mountain Bike Park qualify for Paydirt. If you can't make the designated trail work days, email Cliff to set up a day and time you would like to do the trail work. We want to keep the trails we have, right? So let's get together and make the trails we have great.

**Note: There can be no unauthorized trail work. The Trailblazers MTB Park is home the the Golden Cheeked Warbler, an endangered species. Please contact Cliff at TestA29@aol.com prior to conducting any trail work. Unauthorized trial work will get the MTB Park closed**

## Get your bike dirty for \$30 a Year (or a note from the President)

March 1st of 2002 has come and now is the time to renew or if you are a day use patron, purchase a yearly pass and become a member of the premier mountain bicycling club in Central Texas. If you are interested in taking mountain biking to the next level, pure fun with friends, join the Fort Hood Trailblazers. We are Central Texans, either brought here by the Army or born, Soldiers and Civilians alike, men, women and children, promoting all aspects of mountain biking in Central Texas.

Membership is very important to the existence of the club and the mountain bike park. At the end of every year, the club's account is liquidated and the club starts off with 0 dollars. These funds go into the general Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) program on Fort Hood. This money is used for quality of life programs for Fort Hood soldiers and their families. Most of the funds generated from membership, day use fees and special events are used for basic operations and maintenance for the club and the MTB Park. Supplies for trail building and maintenance and to cover up front cost for special events. The U.S. Government provides no funding.

This is all for you. This park is your park, this club is your club, these trails are your trails. The bottom-line, get your bike dirty for \$30.

Cliff Mead, Club President.

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