

OTP Hike #569

OTP Hiking and Debating Society:

Shady John's Hike for 6/27/01

Cheeseboro Canyon Trails and the Infamous Ahmanson Ranch Revisited.
(REVISION 1, DATED 6/15/01))

PRELUDE: Dave Holmes and I scouted my hike today. There have been some BIG changes. Lots of signage which we found confusing because it seemed that some trails had different names depending upon which end of the segment we were at the time. We hiked most of the way up the Baleen Wall Trail, now closed to mountain bikes and mostly over grown with thistles, fox tails and other stick-tights. Took us the better part of 30 minutes to get enough of them out of our shoes and socks to make it half way comfortable to hike. SO...the Baleen Wall Trail is a NO GO..

HOWEVER, when we returned to the parking lot and checked the map box, we were greatly surprised! A new Cheeseboro/Palo Comado Canyons trail map was in the box. A new section of parkland (Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Parkland) has been added to the east of Cheeseboro Canyon that was once Ahmanson Ranch property. A call to the Park Service verified that this property is open to the public. Park Service is waiting for money from Congress to actually take ownership. (The Baleen Wall Trail is not even shown on the new map.) So..I recommend that you hikers get a copy of the map on the 27th as this new parkland opens up NEW Trails, one even begins at the north end of Las Virgines Road. (Tom Frye and Vicky Ritter take note, the route from Bell Canyon Park to Cheeseboro Canyon is closer to reality,)

THE HIKE We will depart from the parking lot at 9:30 A.M. following the Modello Trail up-and-over to the Las Virgines/Cheeseboro Ridge Trail to the top of the ridge. We will take the Ridge trail and follow the ranch road down to Shepherd's Flat. Lunch under the big oak nearby (toward the Sheep Corral). Return to the parking lot via Sheep Corral Trail/Sulfur Springs Trail/Cheeseboro Trail. Hike is approximately 9 miles. Elevation gain and lost is an unknown. Easy going except for the Modello Trail and the CheeseboroRidge/Las Virgines Trail. Park is very dry and even the stream is dried up but we enjoyed the company of lots of birds and some wild flowers.

No poison oak unless one gets off the trails, most of the trails are old ranch roads.

HOW TO GET THERE Go WEST on the Ventura (Hwy 101) Freeway from the San Diego (405) Fwy or from the Las Virgines (Malibu Canyon) Road. Take the third off ramp west of Las Virgines Road, Chesboro Road, and go right. At the bottom turn right and follow the narrow road, be alert for hidden oncoming traffic, to the entrance to the park and follow road back to the parking lot. (Don't park at the little lot at the entrance.) Toilets available at the parking lot.

SHADY JOHN'S HIKE

6/27/01

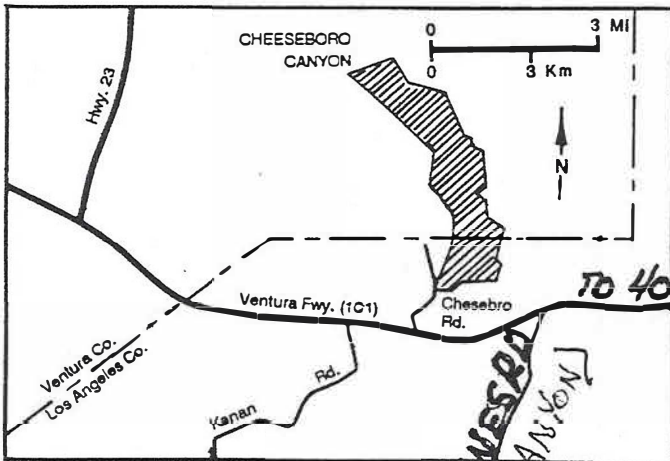
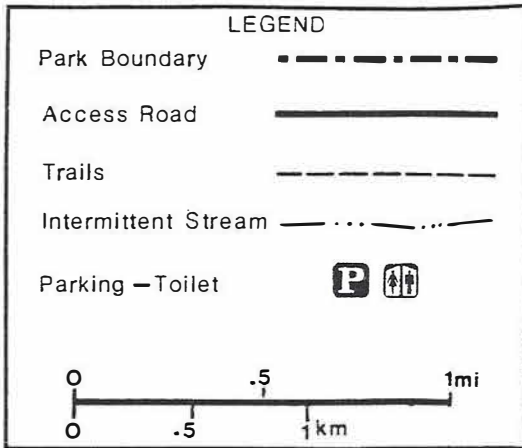
~ 9 mile loop

9:30 AM Departure

CHEESEBORO CANYON TRAILS

Whether you walk, bicycle or ride horseback, Cheeseboro Canyon offers a variety of adventures. Most trails are old ranch access roads. Mileages are one-way. NOTE: Some trails are closed to mountain bicycles. Check the map and trail description BEFORE you begin.

Modello Trail	0.75 miles	moderate
Cheeseboro Cyn. Trail	1.2 miles	easy
Sulfur Springs Trail	1.6 miles	easy
Cyn. Overlook Trail	0.7 miles	moderate
Sheep Corral Trail	1.8 miles	moderate
Baleen Wall Trail	3.0 miles	strenuous



Handwritten notes on the map: "RCH", "HWY 1", "SAS VIRGINESIA", "MALIBU CANYON".

