

VOLUNTEER TODAY

Dedicate Yourself to Caring for the Land and Serving the People

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/volunteering/>

Los Angeles River Ranger District Volunteer Newsletter Jan 2013

Start 2013 with "Safety First"

Think safety first in how you improve a site, how you work, and how you safeguard others. If it's not safe don't do it.

Use Protective Personal Gear

You must wear gloves, boots, long pants (jeans recommended) and a long-sleeved shirt. You will be provided with a hard hat. You should also have appropriate cold/wet weather gear. Wet or muddy gloves may cause a tool to slip and strike someone; have extras handy. Take a complete first aid kit and know how to use it.

Use Correct Tools in Good Condition

Incorrect tools can make the job take longer, result in injuries, damage the tools and create the wrong effect at the site. Dull tools can be very dangerous by bouncing or glancing off surfaces; they also cut more slowly and are therefore more tiring.

Carry Tools Safely

Always carry tools in your hands and down at your side, not over the shoulder. For long distances, strap unused tools to your pack. Use blade guards whenever possible. On slopes, carry the tool on the downslope side of your body. When carrying two tools, have the more dangerous tool downslope of you. Balance heavy weights, especially when repeating tasks such as carrying buckets of rock.

Eliminate Area Hazards

Be extra cautious on hazardous footing such as loose rock, branches, vines, slippery moss and clay surfaces. Before starting to work, remove obstacles and debris from your working space overhead, underfoot, and in tool swinging area. Place tools and materials safely aside where they don't present a hazard. Take a firm, balanced and comfortable stance before using a tool.

Use Body Motion Wisely

Conserve motion and effort; use short chops, not long swings. Protect your back by bending at the knees with Pulaski and hoes, use your knee as an arm support whenever possible. Change tasks as needed to avoid repetitive motion syndrome.

Protect Others

Ensure others are always outside the combined length of your arm and tool. Make sure there is no one downhill who may be struck by materials from you or your co-workers. Watch for trail users who may try to walk around you without getting your attention. When someone comes by, stop work, notify your co-workers, and wait for the person to pass. When practical, use portable signage to warn trail users to watch for a work party in progress.

In absence of clearly defined goals, we become strangely loyal to performing daily acts of trivia.

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Electronic copy of Newsletter at:
<http://www.mtlowe.co/VolunteerNews.htm>

P 1 vol. 12 Issue 1

They, too Pass On

GOAT LIFE NOT INVULNERABLE.

FOREST RESERVE EXPERIENCES BREAK TRADITIONS.

Animals Intended to Clear Firebreaks Fall Victims to Poisonous Herb, and Department of Agriculture Expert Comes to Study into Cause of Herd's Depletion.

Will the work of the iconoclast never cease? Now comes explosion of a strongly-intrenched theory regarding the tenacity of goat life. It is show that there is some kind of vegetable growth in the Angeles National Forest that can readily "get the goat." and that it has already made sad inroads on the goat herds that were intended to keep down the growths on the firebreaks of the forest reserve.

From the time of the introduction of the first goat at the initiation ceremonies in the Tower of Babel, down to the present there has been a widespread belief that dynamite, a sawed-off shotgun or an ax were about the only instruments of destruction effective upon the goat. But that idea is no more.

There is a modest plant that grows and blossoms on the steep declivities of the forest reserve that seems to appeal to the appetite of the goats that were taken there to eat off the vegetation on the fire breaks. It quickly kills of the goats.

Fred Douthitt, grazing expert of the Agricultural Department, with headquarters at San Francisco, left yesterday for the country in the vicinity of Redlands, to inquire into the cause of the sudden demise of so many of the herd of H. J. Brinkerhoff, placed in the reserve some months ago.

The herd originally numbered about 500 and Supervisor Charlton thought he had solved the problem of how to remove the grass and leaves from the breaks, thus doing away with much of the menace of fire in the big woods. But the goats were in trouble from the very hour they were placed in the tall grass canyons.

The herder, an old Basque, was too old to keep tab on the goats that insisted in leaping from precipice to precipice. and had a playful style of "skinning" up the sides of the mountains.

Then another trouble came. Many of the goats disappeared, and simultaneously with disappearance the presence of goat meat on the tables of many of the near-by-ranchers was noted and roast goat was all the rage in various parts of the country where the goats mostly congregated.

And now the poison.

IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES FLASH FORWARD

Lisle R. Green and Leonard A. Newell of the Pacific Southwest Forest and Range Experiment Station did a study on the use of goats in September 1982. The report "Using Goats to Control Brush Regrowth on Fuel breaks" covers the advantages and disadvantages of using goats.

The report can be found at:

http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_gtr059/psw_gtr059.pdf

Minutes of Monthly LAARD Volunteer Meeting

November 28, 2012

BY KATHY REILLY

Next meeting is January 16, 2013

Organization Reports:

- **California trail users coalition (CTUC)**--Barry Weatherly of National Forest Foundation Angeles division reported they meet the third Wednesday of every month. Will be studying the USFS 2013 budget, do some tree planing, OHV route in San Gabriel Canyon. Every year have Super Sweep of San Gabriel Canyon.
- **Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail Keepers** -- took some time off
- **Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol - CORBA**--IMBA Training sessions worked on reroute of a portion of Strawberry Peak Trail. Attended Rigging (grip hoist) training - used for moving logs, which was organized by the PCT and San Gabriel Trail Builders. MWBA is working Sunset Trail. Did survey of Millard to Brown Mountain.
- **JPL Trailbuilders** -- Due to inclement weather not conducive to driving the Mt Lowe fire road, checked out Strawberry Peak Trail, and other outing was rained out. Plan to continue work on Mt Lowe West. Thank Dave Leford for getting the downfall on that trail.
- **Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association**--Vetter closed in October for winter, Slide Mountain is open. LA County Fire crews will help with Vetter restoration when it reopens.
- **Arroyo Seco Canyon** -- no report
- **Mt Disappointment 50 K** -- no report
- **Terry Tanner** -- no report
- **Scenic Mt Lowe Committee**-- next weekend is yearly fundraiser, shuttle hike at Mt Echo. There is a short history video of Mt Lowe on AOL.
- **Boy Scouts of America**--Clearing downfall on Gabriellino, Mt Waterman, and Mt Lowe Trails. Lots of poodle dog makes it slow going to get the roots out.
- **Angeles Crest 100 Mile Endurance Run**-- next year's race registration closed as of September 1 with 170 runners. They are all required to do trail work starting next April. Surveyed Sulpher Springs to PCT.
- **Bear Canyon** -- On hiatus for summer, surveyed trail, large trees down near campground. Campground has been cleared by backpackers. Concerned about short cuts near falls. Trail from Tom Sloan is in bad shape.
- **Tree People** -- no report
- **Mounted Horse patrol** -- Getting back out now that is cooler. Last weekend at Chantry Flats, the horses are good ambassadors.
- **Sierra Club**--Working Strawberry Peak Trail, last time was with the Korean group. Will scout trail to Strawberry Potrero. There are slides on South Fork Trail. The program the 4th Wednesday in January at Eaton Canyon will be a speaker for PCT.

Minutes of Monthly LAARD Volunteer Meeting (cont)

- **National Forest Foundation** -- will get some grants to work Tujunga and Strawberry Peak Trails
- **Blight Busters**-- working Echo Mountain this Saturday.

USFS REPORTS

- **Dennis**--
 - High country sites closed for winter, except Chilao until the first snow.
 - Monte Cristo has a campground host, Keith Johnson.
 - Alcoa had over 100 volunteers working Vogel Flats - built rainwater retention systems, planted 25 oaks, replaced toilet fixtures.
 - Chilao Visitor Center will reopen next spring, this Saturday from 10 to 2 is a cleanup.
 - There will be tree planting training for supervisors through Tree People.
 - Volunteer of the Year (last year was Richard Nyerges). Anyone with 250 milestone hours is eligible. We voted for Terry Tanner who has over 1000 hours this year, works every weekend at Charlton and has it all mapped. Volunteer Award milestones – 100 hours gets annual pass, 250 Interagency Pass
- **Angeles Volunteer Coordinator Kathy Peterson**
 - **Volunteers had 78,000 hours this year, at \$22 per hour, that comes out to \$1.7 million, equivalent to 40 full-time workers.**
 - Putting together a volunteer project directory
 - Updating Web site
 - This building dedication is Dec 11 from 2 to 8 pm.
 - Friends of Angeles mission bridges community and projects, source of resources for forest.

VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Don't Forget !
LARRD Volunteer Meeting
Jan 16, 2013
701 N Santa Anita Ave. Arcadia, CA 91006



Dear Angeles NF Volunteer:

VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS

You are invited to sign up to work with TreePeople and the US Forest Service for our third season of restoring areas within the Angeles National Forest that were devastated by the Station Fire of
Planting dates are posted on TreePeople's calendar (<http://www.treepeople.org/calendar/2013-02>) beginning February 21, 2013.

Plan ahead and gather your friends, colleagues and family to help plant 15,000 seedlings this season.

Better yet, step up as a Restoration Supervisor by attending one of our trainings on December 8th, January 5th or February 9th.

Please call if you have questions. Thanks for all you do to help!

Kathy Peterson
Volunteer/Partnership Coordinator
Angeles National Forest
cell: 626-437-5789

• **The Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy NEED TRAIL WORK HELP!**

The Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy ("AFC") recently completed its purchase of 38 acres of undeveloped land at the mouth of Rubio Canyon. One of its first projects is the restoration of the historic trails that run through the property, which connect Rubio Canyon directly to Inspiration Point via the Lone Tree Trail.. Paul Ayers is directing the restoration for the AFC, beginning with the Camp Huntington Trail and the Lone Tree Trail via the old Edison jeep road. Paul is looking for volunteer to assist the project with "pick, shovel and rake work" under the guidance of experienced volunteer trail builders for about four hours the first Saturday morning of each month. Rain cancels. Tools will be provided.

Paul's contact information is: ayerspaul@sbcglobal.net 818-378-3217.

AC100 <http://www.ac100.com>

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS:

- 1) help at several aid stations and
- 2) medical volunteers at aid stations i.e. EMTs, First Aid, etc

If you are available on August 3/4, 2013 (Sat/Sun),

Please contact: ken.hamada3@gmail.com Any help will be appreciated.

If you are interested in supporting either of these Forest Service activities, please contact Dennis Merkel, LARRD Recreation Staff Officer, at (818) 899-1900, ext. 229 or dcmerkel@fs.fed.us.

• **Campground Hosts volunteers!** Los Angeles River Ranger District is in need of volunteers to serve as campground hosts for Monte Cristo, Buckhorn, and Chilao Campgrounds. The satisfaction of helping both the National Forest and its visitors is the Campground Host's greatest reward. By their presence, Campground Hosts minimize vandalism thereby saving the taxpayer many dollars in upkeep and property damage. There is no substitute for the personal touch that makes a camper feel welcome and "at home." Campground Hosts meet visitors from all walks of life, and often fellow campers become lasting friends. Many Campground Hosts and campers return to the same campground year after year, sharing stories of new grandchildren, winter activities, and old memories.

• **Recycling/Fund raising volunteers!** New recycling centers have been recently installed on the District and volunteers are also needed to assist with the new recycling program. The funds from the recyclables can be used by the volunteer group.

Deukmejian Wilderness Park Volunteer Trail Crew Needs YOU!



(Trail Restoration on Crescenta View Trail, December 2012)

Deukmejian Wilderness Park was heavily damaged from 2009 Station Fire. A Volunteer Trail Crew has been working on restoring the trails in the park. Restoration was complete on the Rim of the Valley Trail at the end of September 2012. Since then, the crew has been working on the Crescenta View Trail that leads to Mount Lukens.

Our goal is to reach the Circle of Rocks on the Crescenta View Trail by the end of January, 2013. This is a really aggressive goal, but if we continue to add more people, might just be possible. Help us meet this goal!

We meet at the dirt parking lot at Deukmejian Wilderness Park 3429 Markridge, La Crescenta, CA. No experience is required and we will provide tools. It is suggested to wear long sleeve shirt and long pants. Bring gloves and plenty of drinking water. We do work in light rain, so dress appropriately.

To become a Trail Crew Volunteer contact Karen Buehler, Trail Crew Volunteer Coordinator or Mark Stirdivant.

Karen Buehler
Trail Crew Volunteer Coordinator
Karen.Buehler2@gmail.com
(818) 363-6216

Marc Stirdivant
City of Glendale
Community Services & Parks
MStirdivant@ci.glendale.ca.us
(818) 550-4405

**On going Trail Restoration at Deukmejian Wilderness Park:
Crescenta View Trail Restoration Schedule:**

Every Friday in January
7:00 AM to 11:30 AM -Morning Crew
1:30 PM to 4:30 PM -Afternoon Crew

Saturday, January 19
7:00 AM to 11:30 AM -Morning Crew

Follow up on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Deukmejian.Wilderness.Park>

Sierra Club Trail Restoration Event at Deukmejian Wilderness Park

VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS

We had a tremendous turn out for the Sierra Club Trail Restoration Event on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at Deukmejian Wilderness Park. We had several experienced Sierra Club members that worked with our crew to restore a really tricky section of the trail. Sierra Club Events are usually open to non-members as well, so we had several non-members attend, including a group of students from Mt. San Antonio College Geography Class. Along with our regular crew, we ended up with 24 total volunteers on Saturday. We covered about 1/4 mile of trail restoration on the Crescenta View Trail all together this week. The Crescenta View Trail starts in Deukmejian Wilderness Park and leads to Mount Lukens in Angeles National Forest. Awesome work!



(Sierra Club Trail Restoration Event, December 2012)

The 2012 Arroyo Verde Awards our region's most prestigious environmental stewardship awards. The Arroyo Verde Awards are given out by the Council of Arroyo Seco Organizations and the Arroyo Seco Foundation to recognize and give thanks to those who have made a valuable contribution to protecting and improving the Arroyo Seco Watershed and our local communities over the past year. This year's ceremony was held at the beautiful La Casita del Arroyo. Nine awards were conferred to individuals and organizations whose exceptional work has helped make the Arroyo a more environmentally sustainable and enjoyable place for all of us.



Arroyo Verde recipients show off their well-earned awards:
(left to right) Lisa Novick, Lewis MacAdams, Lin Cher, Meredith McKenzie, Phyllis Currie, Tim Wendler, Rose, John Howell, Lee Zanteson, and Dianne Patrizzi

VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Don't like seeing trash and graffiti?
Then Volunteer with Blight Busters Trail Crew
On Feb 2nd 2012.**



VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION by Merkel, Dennis C -FS



Moving a downed tree



Scouts building Retaining wall



Dam Busting in Big T Canyon

New \$12 million Angeles National Forest headquarters is dedicated

Pasadena Star News Dec 12, 2012

ARCADIA - For more than 25 years, employees of the Angeles National Forest's headquarters building were housed in dingy trailers, always meant to be temporary.

But the group of 22 modular units just south of the 210 Freeway are finally gone.

In their place is a stunning and environmentally-efficient 24,000 square-foot administrative facility at 701 N. Santa Anita Ave.

On Tuesday, about 150 people came together to celebrate the completion of the roughly \$12 million project and take tours of the rustic Supervisor's Office, which houses approximately 80 employees.

"This new facility has really special features and conforms to green construction standards such as using smaller amounts of energy and water than used by the previous building," said Thomas Contreras, supervisor for the Angeles National Forest.

The project was paid for with funding from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. It is one of 10 federal stimulus-funded projects in the Angeles National Forest, Contreras said.

Officials Tuesday morning also commemorated another product of federal stimulus dollars - a new roughly \$1.5 million solar-powered system at the U.S. Forest Service's San

Dimas Technology and Development Center, a national research facility. The photovoltaic power system will produce more renewable energy per year than the center needs to operate.

"The facility has been around since the 1960s and it was originally designed to develop equipment for firefighters," said L'Tanga Watson, Angeles National Forest Service recreation officer. "Over the years, it has expanded to different programs and areas in the Forest Service and the main focus is to develop technology for the grounds of the Forest Service."

The excess energy generated from the center will create energy credits to cover electricity costs at the new Forest Service headquarters, officials said.

On Tuesday afternoon, community members and Forest Service employees came together for a special ribbon-cutting ceremony and reception.

"You can't even believe the difference," longtime Arcadia resident and supporter of the U.S. Forest Service Diana Loomis said, comparing the new building to the former facility.

"This is just fantastic," she said, adding that she was happy to see the improvements after years of cuts experienced by the agency.

The building, which houses administrative functions including public affairs, finance and engineering, has a redwood exterior and exposed redwood beams and panels in the interior.

The two-story headquarters facility, which has views of the nearby San Gabriel Mountains, was also designed to incorporate lots of natural light, said Mary McGrath, of Mary McGrath Architects, the executive architect on the project.

The headquarters also features solar panels, a dry creek and a rainwater retention pond.

"It's designed not so that (stormwater) is reused, but so that it's returned to the earth," McGrath said. "It percolates back into the soil."

A courtyard behind the headquarters features bridges crossing over the dry creek and native vegetation including coastal oak, manzanita and sycamore trees, she said.

The changes are a far cry from the old campus, which had trailers with leaky roofs and shook when big rigs passed on the adjacent 210 Freeway, said Sonjia Bergdahl, forest engineer.

"This was always the plan to end up with a permanent building, but we never had the funding," she said.

AC100 <http://www.ac100.com>

By: Hal Winton and Ken Hamada

• **AC100 Volunteers Trail work will resume in late April** The toxic Purple Flower Poodle Dog Bush removal from the trails will be another major undertaking. For now the burned snags fallen across our trails particularly in the Charlton, Chilao Flats areas on the AC100 course have been removed.

Best wishes.

Hal

Altadena Crest Trail Restoration

Working Group 626-797-7243

Monthly meetings on second Tuesday at

Altadena Community Center

www.altadenatrails.org

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail Keepers

Mark Gage mrgy33@hotmail.com

- Trail Maintenance-
Gardening by the Mile not the Yard."....

Hikers and Bikers working together on trails. We work on the trails almost every Saturday. Our focus trails are Lower Sam Merrill, Castle Canyon and Echo Mt. Trails.

Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol

m.rmeguire@hotmail.com

Our mission is to provide educational and a responsible image to all trail users. To encourage rider's to obey forest regulations and working to preserve and protect trails. A.M.B.P is here to serve and inform the public.

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION

<http://www.anffla.org>

Pam Morey pammorey@fs.fed.us

Forest Care Program Coordinator

909-744-9510 ext. 125



- Interested in becoming a Fire Lookout?

It's probably easier that you realize to become an active Fire Lookout with the ANFFLA. It just takes a few classes training (which are quite fun!) and the desire to spend some time in the Angeles National Forest. For more information about becoming a fire lookout contact Pam Morey

- Help rebuild Vetter Mtn Fire Lookout with a purchase of a reusable tote bag for \$5.
- Help support ANFFLA every time you shop!
Register your Ralphs Club Card and your Food4Less card and ANFFLA will receive a donation every time you shop. It's an easy to help support our efforts and costs you nothing!

Antelope Valley Conservancy

www.avconservancy.org

avconservancy@yahoo.com

PHONE (661) 943-9000

Face book: Antelope Valley Conservancy

• Looking for a sustainable gift? Consider giving a Membership in Antelope Valley Conservancy. Only \$25. A gift that keeps on giving.

• If you use Google or any other search engine, please try GoodSearch.com to help us build the Sustaining Endowment. Just type "av conservancy" as your charity and Yahoo donates a penny for each search- at no cost to you! Do it now, so you don't forget. Thank you!

Antelope Valley College, Marauders Fire Crew

Karl Smith karllsmith@aol.com

661 722 9097

• Although most of the group are members of the fire crew, we also invite other volunteers to join us in trail maintenance and other projects. Check us out on face book. AVC Marauders-fire.

• We have been doing trail work on all the Districts of the Angeles, mostly through the Pacific Crest Trail Association. We do have a volunteer agreement with the Angeles NF separate from the PCTA also.

• We usually do some kind of projects several times per month. We are based out of the Antelope Valley College in Lancaster. Anyone wanting information about working with us can contact Karl Smith

Audubon Center at Debs Park

4700 North Griffin Ave.

Los Angeles, CA90031

PHONE: (323) 221-2255

Contact : http://debspark.audubon.org/email/1617/field_location_emailCalendar: <http://debspark.audubon.org/events>

Giving just a little bit of your time can make a big difference to the success of the Audubon Center at Debs Park. We offer many opportunities to help us bring people together to appreciate, enjoy, and protect birds and nature.

Boy Scouts of America

Los Angeles Area Council

<http://www.laac-hat.com/>**Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy**<http://www.arroyosfoothills.org/>

John Howell, Executive Director (626) 796-0782

Face book: Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREWAndy Hoyer abhoyer@yahoo.com 213-675-0420**2013 Schedule**

- Jan 5th 2013
- Feb 16th 2013
- Mar 9th 2013
- Apr 6th 2013
- May 4th 2013
- June 1st 2013

Happy New Year! I want to thank all of those that came last month for that gorgeous, sunny day in the middle of December. We got quite a bit accomplished, the trail down to the falls is much improved and we can now focus our efforts further on down the trail. We'll be going out again on Saturday, January 5th. In particular, I'd like to continue doing tread work on the area where the trail heads upstream into Bear Canyon itself. There is very little in the way of pruning to be done, mostly we'll need shovels, McLeods, and Pulaskeys or pick/mattoxes. I'll bring plenty of tools and hard hats but feel free to bring your own if you have them and we'll see you on the mountain!

Please let me know if you are coming and I'll see you on the mountain!

When: Saturday January 5th 8:00 am to 2 pm.

Where: Angeles Crest Highway (1000 Milmada Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011)

RSVP so we can bring enough tools and hard hats for everyone.

Bring your lunch & plenty of water (2 liters minimum)

Thanks again!

Andy

Blight Busters Trail CrewDanny Treadway dayhiker86@yahoo.com

- Feb 2nd . Echo Mtn.

What: We will be driving up on a closed road that will get us to within 3/4 of a mile of Echo. We will be locking the gate on the road behind us. Anyone with time issues shouldn't sign up because you will have no way out until we all leave as a group. That being said, we should be wrapping things up around 1pm.

Meeting Location: We will be meeting at Farnsworth Park just off of Lake Ave, in Altadena at 8am. From the 210 FWY. in Pasadena, exit Lake Ave. Drive north towards the mountains. The park will be on the left side of Lake Ave. as you drive up. We will be meeting in the first parking lot on Mount Curve Ave.

L A County Farnsworth Park 568 East Mount Curve Avenue, Altadena, CA.

Bring the usual, clothing that you don't mind getting paint on. Water and a snack. Nothing else is needed. All equipment will be provided. Hiking distances should be no more than 1.5 miles roundtrip

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC)

- Jan 16th meeting <http://www.ctuc.info/ctuc/>

Come and Join Us CTUC meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at 3550 Foothill Blvd., Glendale, CA.

Our meetings are open to everyone who wishes to participate. Volunteers have a great time working together on these types of projects. To volunteer on one of our projects, please join us by calling our Chairman, Terry Kaiser at 818-353-4682. You may also email: edwaldheim@aol.com

- **CTUC MAPS** The first map in our series was completed in 2005 and now, several years later, there are eight maps in print with as many as four more in the works. CTUC maps are unique in that they are not complete inventories of routes. Instead they are travel guides to the area with selected routes shown.

For more information: <http://www.ctuc.info/ctuc/index.php/maps>

Community Hiking Club

communityhikingclub.org

661-259-2743

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel email: zuliebear@aol.com

• Interested in helping a mapping team in the Western end of the San Gabriel Mountains? We need people proficient in Map reading, using a compass, and GPS. Contact Dianne if you are interested in joining us: zuliebear@aol.com

• The Community Hiking Club is forming a new trail team. If you are interested in working on the Western, North, South portions of the San Gabriels, and would like to work during the week, or possibly a few Sundays, please contact Dianne at: zuliebear@aol.com

- Jan 1st -Los Pinetos to Wilson Saddle

HAPPY NEW YEAR

This is our annual New Year's Day hike up Los Pinetos Trail across the Santa Clarita Canyons to Wilson Canyon Saddle. This is a tough to moderate 10 mile hike with 1000' gain. If it is clear, the views can be spectacular. You might be able to see the PV Peninsula and Catalina!! Take your time recovering from your New Year's Eve, and watching the Rose Parade. This hike will start later in the day to help you ease into 2013. Total mileage is 8.

Meet at the Walker Ranch Trail Head at 10:00, to leave the trail head at 10:15.

Bring water, lunch, camera, snacks, and hiking poles (if you have them).

Directions: Exit the SR-14 Freeway, turn right. Go for about 4 miles. You will see a wooden sign and a turn out. The sign will say: Walker Ranch Trail head. Park in the turn out. This is where you will meet. Parking is free. **Leader:** Steve Iland **Rated:** Moderate +++

- Jan 5th -Whitney Canyon to the Waterfall

This is a great local, easy hike. It's perfect for beginners, seniors and kids! It is a total of just under 5 miles RT with very little gain. There are some stream crossings, and a little rock hopping, and a couple of small hills. This canyon goes from Santa Clarita Open Space into the Angeles National Forest. It is a gorgeous hike where we often see deer. We'll visit an area frequented by animals by a sulfur spring and a 10' waterfall.

Meet at the Park and Ride located at the SR-14 Frwy and Newhall Avenue at 8:00.

Bring: your camera, poles if you have them, a snack to have by the waterfall and water!

Leader: Lise

Rated: Easy

(continue to p13)

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Community Hiking Club cont

• Jan 12th -This is a local hike starting at Dillon Divide into Pacoima Canyon.

On the way we will stop at Dutch Louie and turn around at Dagger Flat trail junction. The hike is 5 miles in length, with 1000' of elevation gain. It is an easy hike, and you should be done in approximately 3 hours. Pacoima Creek cuts a deep canyon from Mt. Gleason to the San Fernando Valley. A seasonal stream runs through the canyon that is shaded by oak, cottonwood, alder, and a handful of sycamores. Gold, silver, titanium, and graphite mining was once done in this canyon. An old prospector know as Dutch Louie discovered the placers: to recover the gold, he and his associates diverted the stream by tunneling a temporary watercourse through a rock promontory. We will be able to see the tunnel, 150-200' long, of this turn-of-the-century operation mine. This location can be hard to find, but if you follow me, I can show you the way.

Trail Description: The hike starts as Dillon Divide. We will follow a dirt road for a few minutes before taking a single track trail down to Pacoima creek. Remember we will be climbing back out of the canyon at the end of our hike. If there is water flowing we will be crossing the creek many times. This part of the trail looks a lot like the Fish Canyon trail in Castaic. We will turn around at Dagger Flat trail junction where an old prospector was allegedly stabbed to death, could it had been Dutch Louie?

Nature Note: As with most trail close to water around this area you will find poison oak. Tarantula Hawks, a 2" wasp common to Southern California can be found in this area also. If Tarantula Hawks are around there must be tarantulas. The tunnel seems to have a lot of spiders in Sept. For your own safety and mine please stay out of the tunnel, unless you want to be tarantula food (maniacal laugh).

Trailhead: It would be best to meet between 07:30-07:40 AM at Placerita Nature Center and carpool due to the limited parking at the trailhead. For those who would like to meet at the trailhead, take Placerita Canyon to Sand Canyon. Turn right, you will pass Bear Divided Picnic Area, at 7 miles the trailhead will be on your left, forest service road 3N32. You will need an Adventure pass to park.

Leader: Dave **Rated:** Easy to Moderate (due to gain)

• Jan 19th – Liberty Cyn to Phantom Trail to Malibu Creek State Park.

This hike will be a 9 mile loop with apx 900 ft gain in the Santa Monica Mountains through Liberty Canyon, connecting to the Phantom Trail, then down into Malibu Creek State Park to the south end of Century Lake. We will then take the Forest Trail along the north end of the lake, and visit the rock pool before completing the loop back to the trailhead. Bring water, lunch, snacks, and shoes with good tread. The hike will include single track trails and some fire roads. **We will also be keeping a pace that may be too fast for beginning hikers.**

To carpool, hikers can meet the leader at Towsley Canyon outside the gate before 6:45AM for a 6:45 AM SHARP departure to the trailhead or plan to meet at the trailhead at 8AM.

To meet at the trailhead: Take the 405 Fwy South to 101 Fwy North and exit at Las Virgenes. Turn left on Las Virgenes. Turn right at the light for Mulholland Hwy (if you pass the sign for the entrance to the State Park you have gone too far). On Mulholland Hwy, there is parking on the dirt shoulders on both sides of the road. There is an opening in the fence and a sign on the RIGHT (north) side of Mulholland Hwy for the North Grasslands trail, which is where the hike will begin about 0.1 mile from Las Virgenes.

Hike Leader-Nikki **Rated:** Moderate ++ (gain and distance)

• Jan 26th -Let's go SNOWSHOEING!!!!

Today we'll meet at the Mt. Pinos parking area, don our snow shoes and head off to the summit of Mt. Pinos. It's a 4 mile RT trek. **Please check the web site: communityhikingclub.org before the hike to make sure there is snow on the ground. If there is no snow, the hike may be changed.**

Snowshoes are available to rent at Sport Chalet and REI for about \$10.00 for the day. They are also available to rent and return at Frazier Park Sporting Goods. Please make your arrangements for snowshoes about a week in advance so you are sure to get a pair.

Directions: Take I-5 North to Frazier Park. Exit. Turn left. Follow this road all the way to the end where you will find a large parking lot, a "Nordic Hut" and the Trail head sign for Mt. Pinos. We will meet near the Trail head at 9:00. Please allow 1 hour and 15 minutes to get to the parking area.

Bring snowshoes, ski poles, camera, and any other winter/snow equipment you might like to play with after the snow shoe trek. Bring your whole family! Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, good filtering glasses, chapstick and layered clothing to keep you warm. Please do not wear cotton as it will get wet and you could get hypothermia. Your shoes should be waterproof as well, and you should bring an extra pair of socks, shoes and pants to wear when you are through. (In case you get wet). **Leader:** Dianne **Rated:** Easy ++

ANGELES FOREST HAS:



EARTH'S BIGGEST AND LONGEST PINE CONES

The **longest** pine cone on the earth comes from the Sugar Pine. Its cones can grow up to two feet long!

The **biggest** pine cone on the earth is the Coulter pine cone. They're named for Irish botanist Thomas Coulter. They can grow to be 8 to 16 inches long and weigh up to 10 pounds!



VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

CITY OF GLENDALE

Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept

<http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/parks/default.aspx> 818-548-2000

CITY OF GLENDALE Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept

• **Jan 5th Everyone Talks About the Weather** Come out to Deukmejian Wilderness Park as we learn the basics of Meteorology and see real world examples in the park. Weather is in the news everyday and shapes the world around us and the way we lead our lives.

Space is limited for this program, so you must call (818) 548-3795

• **Jan 26th Third (Forth) Saturday of the Month - Wilderness Workday**

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Deukmejian Wilderness Park

Join us for our regular third Saturday Wilderness Work Day in Glendale's Great Outdoors. This is a terrific opportunity to do satisfying work in a beautiful setting and is perfect for students who need community service hours. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a hat, sunscreen, and protective clothing. Water and snacks will be provided. Free. **For more information call (818) 548-3795**

• **Jan 4th/11th/18th/19th/25th Crescenta View Trail Restoration at Deukmejian Wilderness Park**

Karen Buehler (818) 550-4405

Marc Stirdivant (818) 363-6216

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

PHONE: (818) 773-3555 FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/CORBAMTB>

<http://corbamt.com/>

The Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization serving the mountain bicycling community of Los Angeles and its surrounding areas including southern Ventura County.

We are dedicated to preserving open space, maintaining public access to public lands, and creating more trail opportunities for all to enjoy. We are a chapter of the International Mountain Bicycling Association.

Friends of El Prieto Trail**bannermoffat@earthlink.net**

An organized group of individual working on improving the trail to pre fire condition. If interested in assisting, please contact Banner Moffat by e-mail.

HABITAT WORKS **<http://www.habitatwork.org>****Kim Clark or Tom Persons 818-353-4653****Habitat Works - Volunteers Improving Wildlife Habitat**

"We're working in the Arroyo Seco this month, as well as helping out on Santa Clara Divide to remove Spanish broom. Shoot us a quick email to find out more. We look forward to meeting and working with you!"

Thanks!

Kim and Tom

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center**www.haramokngna.org**

- **Stop by our Center any weekend from 10am – 4pm.** We are happy to answer any questions about Native American culture, the Angeles National Forest, hiking trails, camping, etc. We have ample parking out front.
- **Volunteers** As a cultural, environmental and arts organization, Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center shares the flavor of Native American history, culture, traditions and arts with the Los Angeles community. We are always looking for energetic individuals ready to represent the Cultural Center during special events and regular office hours.
- **Check the Pukuu's Amazon Store** <http://astore.amazon.com/pukucultcomms-20>
When you order items thru our store, A percentage is donated to our center. THANK-YOU
- **We are open Sat & Sun from 10-4**, and by appointment for groups during the week. We now have an answering machine (if the electricity is working) at the Center – 663-449-8975.
- **The US Forest Service** requires all parked cars in the Angeles National Forest (including at Haramokngna) to display a parking pass. Passes can be purchased at our Visitor's Center for \$5.

High Country Riders

Forest wide equestrian volunteer group that patrols trails and can pack Trash, Rubbish, Equipment, Material and Supplies etc...to your Trail or worksite.

Contacts:**Jonathan Schultz** 951-830-3400 **maujds@earthlink.net**

Forest Certified Animal Packer,

Master Teacher for "LNT Chainsaw & Crosscut Saw Certified Volunteer.

Glen Foster 760-868-8313 or 760-508-0344**Dave Ewbanks** 909-489-5470**JPL TRAILBUILDERS****Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL) 626-798-7256 (home)****Jack Russell 562-861-3187**

- **Jan 19th Outing** Meet at 8:15 AM at ball diamonds parking lot in the lower part of Hahamongna Park.

WHAT HAPPENED:

Due to inclement weather not conducive to driving the Mt Lowe fire road, checked out Strawberry Peak Trail, and other outing was rained out. Plan to continue work on Mt Lowe West. Thank Dave Leford for getting the downfall on that trail.

Matt Maxonmatt@mattmaxon.com

Continuing to work on the Stone Cyn Trail. No set schedule. Hope to get out for 1 day at least, every month. I'm very flexible If you want to come out contact me and we'll work something out. Brush clearance top down is my main focus right now, but there is plenty of tread that needs work, switch backs that need to be rebuilt, and 2 slide areas / washouts that need something done with them.

**Mt Disappointment 50K
Conservation Group**www.mtdisappointment50k.com Gary Hilliard, Director

The **Mt. Disappointment Endurance Race** is an approved USDA Forest Service Region 5 Angeles National Forest trail maintenance group. Trail restoration, trail maintenance, and trailhead/station area improvement/maintenance projects are charities of The Mt. Disappointment Endurance Race:

- Restoration and maintenance of the USFS trail network
- Providing volunteer opportunities for Los Angeles area residents
- Painting, masonry, repair tables, rails, signs, structures, parking area clean-up, Sutter walls
- Assisting other volunteer groups with their projects
- Providing projects and hands-on help for scouting troops

Mount Wilson Bicycling AssociationRay Herrera <http://mwba.org/>

Join IMBA and MWBA to become part of the team of trail users working to improve the experience on trails close to home. Your support is critical in helping MWBA and IMBA work with local land managers, demonstrating that we will continue to build and maintain sustainable trails AND be responsible trail users. As a MWBA-IMBA member, you will receive special regional newsletters, invitations to monthly meetings and many other social events throughout the year. Most importantly, you will be helping us develop future trail opportunities and improve our current local trails. Join today and ride with us tomorrow!

GO HERE TO JOIN: <https://www.imba.com/civcrm/contribute/transact?reset=1&id=124>

Mount Wilson Institute<http://www.mtwilson.edu/> (404) 413-5484

P. O. Box 1909

Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1909

Support Mount Wilson Observatory

We Need Your Help - Mount Wilson Observatory is privately owned and receives no continuing state or federal support. You can help ensure the continued operation of this science heritage site with your tax deductible gift in one of two ways:

- 1 Join our Friends of Mount Wilson Observatory organization** to receive a variety of member benefits and stay informed on the latest scientific and other activities from the mountain.
- 2 Contribute to our Second Century Campaign.** As Mount Wilson continues into its second century, a capital campaign is being developed to preserve this great observatory for future generations.

Pacific Crest Trail Association<http://www.pcta.org>**FACE BOOK:** <http://www.facebook.com/#!/PCTAFan>

Liz Bergeron lbergeron@pcta.org

Sacramento, CA Phone: (916) 285-1846 x 2

Play in the dirt, Meet new people, Sleep under the stars.

Pacific Crest Trail maintenance volunteers are needed throughout California, Oregon, and Washington to help repair erosion problems, clear fallen trees, and remove encroaching brush. Help make the hiking and equestrian experience a better one now and for future generations.

Volunteers can head out for the day, a weekend, or longer with car and backcountry camping options available. There are no fees to volunteer and meals are included at our overnight events. Prior trail maintenance skills are not needed on most projects, experienced crew leaders are there to teach you the skills needed. To learn more contact Merrit Hoeh at (916) 285-1838 or check out the volunteer schedule at www.pcta.org. Have an adventure of a lifetime by volunteering on the Pacific Crest Trail!

- Jan 1st - Dec 30th. 'Fannypack' Projects [FALC]. SBNF, ANF, CNF, and BLM.

Swat teams to inventory trail, clear trees and boulders, and repair slides on short notice. Open to qualified volunteers.

Contact: Pete Fish, Email: pickaxepete@sbcglobal.net, Tel.: 805-658-6540

or: John Hachey, Email: goaliejhachey@msn.com, Tel.: 909-605-3219.

- 2013 PCTA Photo Contest

Do you have photographs that would look great on the cover of the Communicator or in our annual Calendar? Many of the pictures we'll publish in 2013 will be selected from those entered in the Annual Photo Contest. Submission deadline is February 24, 2013.

Prizes: First Place – The Pacific Crest Trailside Reader books

Second Place – A Pacific Crest Trail Buff

Third Place – A Pacific Crest Trail Baseball Cap

RULES: <https://www.pcta.org/pdf/2013-Photo-Contest-Call-for-Entries.pdf>

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS FOUNDATION

(Formally the San Bernardino National Forest Assoc.)

<http://mountainsfoundation.org/>Sarah Miggins smiggins@fs.fed.us 909-382-2796

602 South Tiptecanoe, San Bernardino, California 92408

For calendar details go to: <http://mountainsfoundation.org/>

- Animal Tracking Jan 12th/26th
- Arrowhead Communities Fire Safe Council Dec 13th
- Bald Eagle Volunteer Count Jan 12th
- Bald Eagle Celebration! Jan 19th
- Discovery Center Snowshoe Tour Jan 5th/6th/13th/19th/20th/26th/27th
- Greenthumbs Restoration Volunteers Jan 12th
- OHV General Meeting Jan 9th
- Story Time ~ Stellanuna by Janell Cannon Jan 5th
- Wrightwood Fire Safe Council Jan 15th

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY<http://www.mtlowe.co>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

E-mail: Emworks@verizon.net

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SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org>

Helen Oakley: 626-792-4573 Ben White: 626-303-1078

ben@sgmtrailbuilders.org

We work on the first, third, and fifth Saturday of each month Trail working volunteers may join the San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders in the continued restoration process for trails in and around Crystal Lake and if you would like to volunteer your time, please send e-mail to volfeedback@crystallake.name I will let you know when, where, and what you need to know to join us.

MEETING LOCATION: San Gabriel Canyon Gateway Center, 1950 North San Gabriel Canyon

Sierra Club www.angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena/

Sierra Club-Pasadena Group

P.O. Box 94086

Pasadena, CA. 91109-4086

(626) 791-7660

For more calendar details go to http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena/outings_3mos.html#jan

• **Jan 3rd/10th/17th/24th/31st Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike**

• **Jan 2nd Wed 7:30 pm Pasadena**

Monthly Meeting: "Travels through Mongolia: Ancient cities in a harsh but awe-inspiring environment" by Angeles Chapter outings leader **Fred Dong**. Fred will provide highlights of adventures during Sierra Club trips to Mongolia he co-led in 2011 and 2012, as well as a preview of the Club's upcoming trip to Mongolia in October 2013. Information on Group's hikes, outings, and conservation activities. Newcomers always welcome. 7 pm at Eaton Canyon Nature Center, 1750 N Altadena Dr in NE Pasadena.

. For information contact **Membership Chair: Elizabeth Pomeroy**.

• **Jan 12th Orchard Camp from Lizzies Trail Inn**

• **Jan 13th La Canada Trails Day**

• **Jan 26th Mt Fuji (3600')**

• **Feb 2nd Azusa Peak (2081'), Glendora Peak (3322')**

• **Feb 2nd South Pasadena Historic Walk**

Tree People <http://www.treepeople.org>

12601 Mulholland Drive

Beverly Hills, CA 90210 Telephone (818) 753-4600

FACEBOOK: Tree People

For more calendar details go to

<http://www.treepeople.org/calendar/2013-01>

• **Angeles Forest Supervisor Training Jan 5th**

• **Commercial Combo Tree Care and Planting Jan 26th**

• **Fruit Tree Program Jan 7th/19th /25th/26th**

• **Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop Jan 27th**

• **Full Moonlight Hike Jan 26th**

• **Fruit Tree Pruning Workshop Jan 27th**

• **Park work day Jan 10th/12th/17th/24th/31st**

• **Residential Combo Tree Care and Planting Jan 12th/13th**

• **Residential Tree Care Jan 21st/27th**

• **Santa Monica Mountains Restoration Jan 5th/6th/13th/19th/26th/27th**

• **TreePeople Branching Out: Community Tree Walk @ Inglewood Jan 20th**

Enjoy a pleasant fall afternoon with TreePeople for a Community Tree Walk! Meet like-minded folks, get some light exercise, and develop your 'tree-vision' as we walk through a lovely campus and learn how to identify trees at this casual event. Learn more about the work of TreePeople and how you can get involved! Afterwards, for those interested, we'll head over to a local pub! Branch Out with TreePeople every month at a new location!

For questions, contact our Volunteer Manager at volunteer@treepeople.org.

• **Volunteer Supervisor Training Jan 12th**

• **Water Pollution Prevention Workshop Jan 26th**



At the new Angeles Forest dedication
Robin Mcguire with Smokey Bear
Photo by M mcguire

Volunteers of the Angeles National ForestWrightwood, CA <http://www.grassyhollow.net>Visitor Center Phone #: (626) 821-6737 Loren Lake lorenll@verizon.net**• Got Snowshoes? We do!**

The Volunteers of The Angeles National Forest offer a snowshoe hike on Saturdays when there's enough snow. Snowshoes are provided free of charge. We only have 11 pair, so bring your own if you have them. Reservations by e-mail should be made at least 24 hours prior to the hike.

We meet at Grassy Hollow Visitor Center (beyond Mountain High on Hwy 2) at 11 a.m. Hikes last about 2 hours. Be sure to allow plenty of time to get to Grassy Hollow. Snow traffic can cause considerable delays.

You'll need a valid Adventure Pass for your Vehicle. **Also bring** water and wear appropriate clothing and shoes.

E-mail us at desertstarr70@yahoo.com, or call 760.680.3470 to reserve your shoes. Provide your name, phone number, # of people and ages and how many pairs of snowshoes you need.

• Full Moon Snow Shoe Hikes:

We'll also offer full moon snow shoe hikes this winter – snow permitting – on the following nights: January 26, February 23, March 30. Meet at Grassy Hollow at 7pm.

**William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF
Crew 5130**

Kevin Sarkissian 661.250.0022 X 552

ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org

William S Hart's Regional Occupation Training Program will continue offering "Outdoor Recreation and Wilderness Conservation" as a joint training venture between WS Hart Union High School District, the USFS, PCTA, and MRCA. In addition to high school credit, the student participants may be offered paid work experience while gaining practical exposure to land management practices and career pathways related to work in the great outdoors including; trail maintenance and construction; wildlife identification and conservation; backcountry navigation; environmental stewardship; wilderness first aid; and much more!

For more information, contact Kevin Sarkissian at: ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org 661.250.0022 X 552 or visit us on the web at: www.hartrop.com/forestry .



Los Angeles River Ranger District
12371 North Little Tujunga Canyon Road
San Fernando, CA 91342

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter, Los Angeles Times Nov 15, 2011 email: info@tundracomics.com



Volunteer Today

Send this in Right Away to

Dennis Merkel —12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Rd
San Fernando, CA 91342

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # (hm) _____

e-mail _____

Interests

Indicate what you would like to do. Circle area or enter your interests.

- Campground Host/ Visitor Information/ Smokey Bear - Fire Prevention/
- Recreation Aid / Forest Patrol /Resource Management / Computers/
- Research-Librarian / Office Clerical / Tour guide/ Fire Lookout/
- Conservation Education / habitat restoration and tree planting

Other: _____
