

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 December 2014

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, the Recreation Team at the LA River Ranger District want to thank you for your passion and commitment to the Angeles National Forest (and newly designated San Gabriel Mountains National Monument) not only on this day, but every day. We are thankful for all that you do for your local communities by supporting the Forest. It is your great work that is truly making a difference in the lives of so many. On the eve of this holiday, ask yourself what you are thankful for – and take a look at these 10 reasons why we are thankful for recreation in the Angeles National Forest this year and every year...

1. Recreation in the Angeles National Forest allows us to become healthy and stay fit - for both adults and youth, making the connection that getting active and healthy is fun and good.
2. The Forest is the best place to see wildlife and experience nature, breathe in fresh air and appreciate what is natural and wholesome around us; passing on the benefits of conservation and stewardship and cultivating a new appreciation for nature among the next generation.
3. The Forest is a great place to walk, hike and bike and even pick up a new activity like camping, bird watching or geocaching.
4. Forests are great places to enjoy a picnic – who doesn't love to eat al fresco!
5. Recreation in the Forest brings generations together. Not only that - it brings all types of people together no matter age, race, income and ability. Recreation in the Forest is one of the best forms of 'public good'— the right to enjoy your life, your health, and your liberty.
6. Forests are great places for community events like California Trails Day, National Trails Day, National Public Lands Day, etc., etc.
7. Forests provide places for sports like running and bicycling; both for practice and competition. Many elite and even some pro athletes got their start in a National Forest.
8. Forests can revitalize underserved communities, transforming them into vibrant destinations. Forests can even boost local economies – from improving property values to attracting new businesses.
9. Forests provide a place for kids after school, weekends, holidays and the summer.
10. Forests offer the opportunity to volunteer and give back to our communities, helping to improve the environment.

In the US Forest Service, we are very thankful for all of you, our dedicated volunteers and those that support the Angeles National Forest. Without you all the continuing improvements wouldn't be a reality.

THANKS!

Dennis Merkel, FPO / CPRP

District Recreation Officer

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

**When life knocks you down.
You have two choices
- stay down or get up.**

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Getting to Know the USFS (Third in a Series of Articles)



A horse patrol of the USFS
Law Enforcement & Investigations unit

Law Enforcement & Investigations

The US Forest Service Law Enforcement & Investigations unit (LEI), headquartered in Washington DC, is a Federal law enforcement agency of the US government. It is responsible for enforcement of federal laws and regulations governing national forest lands and resources. All Law Enforcement Officers and Special Agents receive their training through the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC).

Operations are divided into two major functional areas:

- Law enforcement: uniformed, high-visibility enforcement of laws
- Investigations: Special Agents who investigate crimes against property, visitors, and employees

Uniformed Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) enforce federal laws and regulations governing national forest lands and resources. LEOs also enforce some or all state laws on National Forest Lands. As part of that mission, LEOs carry firearms, defensive equipment, make arrests, execute search warrants, complete reports, and testify in court. They establish a regular and recurring presence on a vast amount of public lands, roads, and recreation sites. The primary focus of their jobs is the protection of natural resources, protection of Forest Service employees and the protection of visitors. To cover the vast and varied terrain under their jurisdiction, they use Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptors, special service SUV's, horses, K-9 units, helicopters, snowmobiles, dirt bikes, and boats.

Special Agents are criminal investigators who plan and conduct investigations concerning possible violations of criminal and administrative provisions of the Forest Service and other statutes under the United States Code. Special agents are normally plainclothes officers who carry concealed firearms, and other defensive equipment, make arrests, carry out complex criminal investigations, present cases for prosecution to US Attorneys, and prepare investigative reports. All field agents are required to travel a great deal and usually maintain a case load of ten to fifteen ongoing criminal investigations at one time. Criminal investigators occasionally conduct internal and civil claim investigations.

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Getting to Know the USFS (CONT)



Forest Service team uses a 106 mm Recoilless Rifle for avalanche control at Mammoth Mountain in the Inyo National Forest in California.

National Forest System

The 193 million acres of public land that are managed as national forests and grasslands are collectively known as the National Forest System. These lands are located in 44 states, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands and comprise about 9% of the total land area in the United States. The lands are organized into 155 national forests and 20 national grasslands. The mission of the National Forest System is to protect and manage the forest lands so they best demonstrate the sustainable multiple-use management concept, using an ecological approach, to meet the diverse needs of people.

State and Private Forestry

The mission of the State and Private Forestry program is to provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners, state agencies, tribes, and community resource managers to help sustain the United States' urban and rural forests and to protect communities and the environment from wildland fires, insects, disease, and invasive plants. The program employs approximately 537 staff located at 17 sites throughout the country. The delivery of the State and Private Forestry program is carried out by eight National Forest System regions and the Northeastern Area.



The US Forest Service R&D lab in Olympia, Washington

Research and Development

The research and development (R&D) arm of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service works to improve the health and use of the United States' forests and grasslands. Research has been part of the Forest Service mission since the agency's inception in 1905. Today, Forest Service researchers work in a range of biological, physical, and social science fields to promote sustainable management of United States' diverse forests and rangelands. Research employs about 550 scientists and several hundred technical and support staff, located at 67 sites throughout the United States and in Puerto Rico. Discovery and technology development and transfer is carried out through seven research stations.

Research focuses on informing policy and land management decisions and includes addressing invasive insects, degraded river ecosystems, or sustainable ways to harvest forest products. The researchers work independently and with a range of partners, including other agencies, academia, nonprofit groups, and industry. The information and technology produced through basic and applied science programs is available to the public for its benefit and use.

International Programs

The Forest Service plays a key role in formulating policy and coordinating US support for the protection and sound management of the world's forest resources. It works closely with other agencies such as USAID, the State Department, and the Environmental Protection Agency, as well as with nonprofit development organizations, wildlife organizations, universities, and international assistance organizations. The Forest Service's international work serves to link people and communities striving to protect and manage forests throughout the world. The program also promotes sustainable land management overseas and brings important technologies and innovations back to the United States. The program focuses on conserving key natural resource in cooperation with countries across the world.

IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

June 22, 1934 page: B8

MT. LOWE VISIT THRILLING TRIP

Experience Cherished as One Never to Be Forgotten

World-Famous Resort Only Two Hours From City

Rest, relaxation and recreation!--only two hours away from Los Angeles' shopping district over smooth steel rails to the tavern and cottages of the world-famous mountain resort at Mt. Lowe. A vacation you'll never forget.

Many world travelers cherish the trip to Mt. Lowe among their most thrilling and delightful experiences and "never-to be-forgotten" memories.

The ascent of Echo Mountain is made up the famous incline railway in cable cars especially designed to give unobstructed views from any seat, and while the sightseers are thrilling at the wonderful panoramas of the valley, cities and ocean the ingenious incline cars make a 1245-foot ascent in the short half-mile trip with absolute safety.

After a brief pause at Echo Mountain summit, passengers again board sightseeing cars for a very interesting three-mile mountain trolley ride, climbing another 1500 feet to Mt. Lowe Tavern. Around 127 curves this ingenious bit of standard-gauge railway winds in and around ravines, cliffs and crags, bridging eighteen canyons, through "Granite Gate," blasted through solid rock, past Cape of Good Hope, around Horseshoe Curve and the Circular Bridge, past Sentinel Rock, Sunset Point, Las Flores Canyon, Live Oak Forest and encountering many other interesting natural attractions before the car comes to a stop at the very door of picturesque Alpine Tavern.

From Inspiration Point, close by the tavern, you may see one of the most magnificent, breath-taking sights in Southern California--a vast empire of 1000 square miles, dotted with fifty-six cities from the foothills of Altadena at your feet far off to the shoreline and the blue Pacific Ocean.

IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES FLASH FORWARD!

The Echo Mountain House located on the Echo Mountain summit, burned down and never rebuilt 34 years before this newspaper article was printed.

Just 9 years before this newspaper article was printed The main tavern was enlarged to accommodate more patrons. Additional cabins were built and a large cottage, known as the Bungalow was constructed. The addition of tennis courts, shuffle board and ping pong tables added to the fun for visitors to the Mount Lowe Tavern.

On September 1936 the Mt. Lowe Tavern burned down and was never rebuilt.

Los Angeles River Ranger District (LARRD) Volunteer Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2014 Arcadia

Our newsletter is on the Mt Lowe website -- www.mtlowe.net

San Gabriel National Monument Q&A

Forest Supervisor Tom Contreras introduced Interim (through end of February) San Gabriel National Monument manager Shane Jeffries. Shane comes from the Forest Service in Oregon, with experience at Tahoe, and other places. He is impressed with our huge volunteer workforce. The San Gabriel National Monument is the 8th one in history and the largest. As Interim manager, his 2 main goals are: 1) creating a collaborative organization, which would be a core committee representing many interest groups with a balance of stake holders. The National Forest Foundation has already pledged to raise \$3 million, and the collaborative organization will need to decide where that should be invested. 2) Write a Monument Management Plan.

Volunteers raised concerns about areas left out of the Monument map. Here's a link to the map <http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/sangabriel/san-gabriel-10-21-14> Shane stated that the focus on the Angeles National Forest has not changed, areas in/out of the boundaries between the Monument and Forest will see no difference. The boundaries cannot be easily changed, since this from an Antiquities Act, not legislature.

Tom said there will be no favoritism between what is in and out of the Monument. This National Monument is providing a spot light on the entire Angeles National Forest, and we should see benefits from that all over the forest.

Organization Reports:

- California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC), (Hal): they are starting OHV training for children, opening North Fork
- Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail Keepers, Mark: absent, working Lower Merrill to remove shortcuts
- Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol (CORBA), Robin & Mike, Steve: working Strawberry Peak and Brown Mountain Trails, will be in Montrose parade. Steve reported they received a grant for reroute of Gabriellano Trail south of Switzers, going over Brown Mountain dam. LACC had said it was beyond their abilities. Now waiting for contractors.
- JPL Trailbuilders, Kathie: finished San Gabriel Peak Trail to peak, now back to Mt Lowe West Trail. Grateful for the grading of Mt Lowe fire road, it is much better to drive now. Came across a Jeep driving down the road, said they went through Mueller Tunnel, which amazed everyone since it doesn't seem passable.
- Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association: Vetter absent, nothing has happened since the foundation was poured in July
- Arroyo Seco Canyon, Tom and Patty: absent.
- Angeles Forest 50 K Race: Gary: absent
- Terry Tanner: helping high country recreation staff with toilets and trash, working Charlton Flat and Silver Moccasin. Reported deer baiting at Camp Glenwood.
- Scenic Mt Lowe Committee, Brian: received a donation to restore the Merrill Monument at Echo Mountain, found the lost part down the side of the mountain
- Boy Scouts of America, David: Eagle Project on Nature's Canteen Trail, Gabrielino Trail from Switzers to Red Box, and PCT at Camp Glenwood. Will do Valley Forge and Silver Moccasin projects. There are about 40 trees down on Mt Waterman. Valley Forge looks great, Dennis said that was due to a contractor
- William Hart Trails, Kevin: absent, attended Cowboy Pottery festival. Will be connecting Wildwood and William Hart
- Angeles Crest 100 Mile Endurance Run, Hal: groups working together are getting a lot done
- Bear Canyon: absent
- Tree People: absent.
- Chantry Flats, Dave: after school started, Chantry was less crowded until 3 weeks ago when the crowds came back, not sure why. Visitor Center is open 1 or 2 days a week
- Sierra Club, Don: working Rim Trail, Gabrielino from Valley Forge to Kenyon DeVore
- MIS Hermanos Pequenitos (My Little Brothers), Andreas: cleared out Stoneyvale to the city – 5 miles with over 300 volunteers. Next is reforestation at Highway 39 and Chilao

(continue to p 6)

Los Angeles River Ranger District (LARRD) Volunteer Meeting Minutes (cont)

Organization Reports:

- Mt Wilson Bicycling Association (MWBA), Mitch: worked Mid-Merrill Trail. Pancake breakfast had 3-400 people, a big success at new location Farnsworth Park. Next will work Gabrielino at Paul Little.
- Legacy Restoration Crew, Brenda: absent
- Crescenta Valley Trail Crew, Karen: absent
- ANF Volunteer Coordinator: absent
- ADV Moto trail crew: absent
- Electric Motorcycle Patrol, Eric: new volunteer wants to patrol in Tujunga, and get more electric motorcycle volunteers
- Friends of Echo Mountain: using Facebook to get volunteers. Removing graffiti (using Goof Off and water) and hope to preserve more antiquities at Mt Echo

USFS Dennis:

- There will be chain saw A class in mid-December, First Aid training is requirement. Contact Dennis for either. Many voiced concerns that they want B class training since A doesn't allow them to cut very large trees.
- A Canyoneering group cleared Eaton Canyon
- LACC and CCC are taking a break from trail work.
- More long-sleeved volunteer t-shirts are available

USFS Tom :

- He gets motivated from us
- He is enthusiastic about youth showing interest
- Mike McIntyre is retiring, there will be a party

Next LARRD Volunteer Meeting will be held Wednesday next year January 21, 7:00 pm at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Arcadia.

NOT SO SMART IDEA!

The old adage, "Don't feed the bears!" may need a 21st-century update: "Don't take selfies with the bears!"

That's the message from Forest Service officials in Lake Tahoe. Every fall, an abundance of kokanee salmon swim up Taylor Creek to spawn. The spectacle attracts thousands of visitors—and a few black bears.

On several occasions this year visitors have rushed toward bears at Taylor Creek, eager for a quick photo.

A number of the ursine selfies have shown up on social media sites.

Bad idea, say officials with the Forest Service's Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. They've threatened to shut down the popular visitors center at the creek if the behavior continues.

"We've had mobs of people that are actually rushing toward the bears trying to get a selfie photo," Forest Service spokesperson Lisa Herron told the Reno Gazette-Journal. "It is presenting a safety issue. We are afraid someone is going to get attacked."

Officials also are worried about the bears' welfare. If a bear were to become aggressive, it might have to be captured and killed.



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



City of Glendale Community Services & Parks

Invites you to join us for.....

Bird Talk on the Riverwalk

◆ WHEN:

Sat. Dec. 6, 2014

7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

(Please note the early start)

◆ WHERE:

Glendale Narrows
Riverwalk

300 Paula Avenue
Glendale, Ca 91201

(Corner of Paula Ave & Garden St)

This program will take place along the
Glendale Narrows Riverwalk on
the Los Angeles River.

Learn about the birds that are in this
area during the winter months.

Join our hike leader, Raul Roa, bird
watcher and photojournalist, for an early
morning of birding and photography.

Attendees are asked to bring binoculars,
a bird identification book (you can check
one out from the local library) and a
camera with the longest lens you have.

Please wear sturdy shoes/boots,
bring water, hat, sunscreen,
and protective clothing.

This program is free, but space is limited.
You must R.S.V.P. to (818) 548 - 3795
to reserve your spot.

Para información en español, llame a (818) 548-2000

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հետևյալ հեռախոսահամարով (818) 548-2000



Great Blue Heron



Spotted Sandpiper



Double-crested
Cormorant

Sponsored By:

GLENDALEPARKS&
OPENSOURCE
FOUNDATION



REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE MADE UPON REQUEST.
PLEASE NOTIFY US WITHIN 48 HRS PRIOR TO EVENT DATE.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

HAT Training VHC WLACC 2014

**Become a USFS approved Trail Boss
Supervise Trail Maintenance
for the youth in your group.
(Great Eagle Projects!)**



A GREAT TRAINING PROGRAM NOT ONLY FOR BOY SCOUTS BUT FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS!

**Let us train you and other adults in your group
so that you are qualified to do Trail Surveys and set up projects
and complete them on your own.**

Purpose:

To provide properly trained personnel with the ability to supervise either "Trail Blazing" or "Forest Conservation" program projects at the unit level.
All Trail Bosses will be trained by USFS Personnel or their approved Trail Boss Trainer.

Requirements:

Must be 18 or older.

Complete 4 days of 6 hours each in training exercises with the Trail Boss Program.

Conduct an approved Weekend project. Minimum 10 hours with your unit. (or another unit) under your supervision, and have it checked out by the Trail Boss trainer.

(Training days do not have to be consecutive days, weeks, or even years).

Training objectives are Tool, Personal Safety, Condition Survey, Brush Clearing, Tread Work, French Drains, Trail Dips, Soil Sacks, Water Bars, Switchback Construction, Tread Support, Etc.

Bring: Gloves, Hat, Water and Lunch, 10 essentials, Day pack, Work clothes.

Training days 2015 :Jan 10/11 Mar 07/08 Apr 25/26 May 02/03

**Call to confirm training day, Time and Meeting Place. (Course cancels if no calls)
We meet at McDonalds at Bouquet Cyn. Rd. & Valencia Blvd, in Valencia at 8:00 AM.**

Contact:

Patrick Aubuchon, Chief Trail Boss.

818-781-7465 - bigaub@sbcglobal.net

MOUNT LOWE EXCURSION 2014

On December 6, 2014, Please join us for a journey into the past.

The 119 year old journey will take you to the Alpine Tavern, a 22-room Swiss Chalet hospice with a complement of amenities from tennis courts and wading pools, to mule rides.

The Tavern had all the conveniences of a modern hotel, bell-boys, excellent heating and a cuisine unexcelled. It was a place for one to linger, and many did for weeks, to drink in the pure mountain air and restfulness of these calm heights.

Then the Tavern disappeared into history.



Your journey will take you along the old railroad route beginning at the gate to the Forest Road (top of Chaney Trail Rd.) to THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, to DAWN STATION, HORSESHOE CURVE, CIRCULAR BRIDGE, GRANITE GATE then to THE TAVERN.

At THE TAVERN their will be Displays, souvenirs and guides to explain what became of the tavern.

There will be 1 dollar hot dogs and hot drinks to enjoy while exploring.

THIS IS OUR YEARLY FUND RAISER

- Fee is \$3.00 per person
- Pick up tickets on the morning of the event.
- No more than 70 people can attend this journey
- So sign up ASAP....Email or call for reservations. (Email preferred)

CONTACT: Brian Marcroft

Email: emworks@verizon.net Telephone: (562) 868-8919

BE READY TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. The number of tickets needed
2. Your Phone Number
3. Names of those coming
4. If you are bringing a vehicle let us know the total number of occupants that your vehicle can carry.
We will need the use of high occupancy vehicles (5 or more passengers) Good road clearance a must!
DO NOT REQUEST A CALL BACK UNLESS IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY

MEET AT THE NORTH END OF LAKE AVE. IN ALTADENA 7:30 AM (Lake & Loma Alta)

- We will organize carpools - DEPART AT 8 AM
- Arrive at Tavern site at 8:45 AM
- Depart from Tavern at 12:30
- Return to Lake Ave. at 1:00 PM

NOTE: We will be behind a locked gate on a restricted road. Those entering will be required to stay with the group the entire time of the event. (8 AM to 1:30 PM)

SPONSORED BY:

**ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST
Scenic Mt. Lowe Committee Volunteer Group
Website: www.mtlowe.co**

NEWS RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

ANF-06-FY15

U.S. Forest Service, Angeles National Forest and
San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

For Immediate Release

November 24, 2014

Contact: Nathan Judy or Ashlee Ransom : (626) 574-1613

Twitter: @Angeles_NF

Grant Awarded for \$1.245 Million to Aid in Restoration of Big Tujunga Canyon Watershed on Angeles National Forest

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST, Arcadia, Calif., and Nov. 21, 2014 - The California Wildlife Conservation Board has awarded a grant to the National Forest Foundation for \$1.245 million to assist with ecosystem recovery efforts on the Angeles National Forest.

The project will be implemented throughout the Big Tujunga Canyon Watershed which is located just north of Sunland and Tujunga within the ANF and portions of the new San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. The project will focus on riparian areas where non-native invasive plants can spread rapidly and degrade native plant communities and habitat.

It is through partnerships and collaboration that goals envisioned by the Forest Service become realities, fostering the return of healthy watersheds, forests, and endangered and threatened species, giving visitors to the forest a natural and more profound outdoor recreational experience.

"We are proud to have built a tangible partnership with the National Forest Foundation", said Tom Contreras, Forest Supervisor, Angeles National Forest. "And we are grateful for their continued support and commitment to ecological restoration efforts by designating the Big Tujunga Canyon watershed as an integral part of the "Treasured Landscapes" campaign."

The U.S. Forest Service and the National Forest Foundation will co-manage the projects starting with the removal of invasive weed species for more than 200 stream miles, to include: Spanish broom, tree tobacco, tamarisk and sweet clover. This effort will focus on those corridors where the species arundo and "tree of heaven" are invading riparian areas. This will be followed by active restoration, planting of oaks and willow cuttings. To ensure success, continued weeding, watering of plants, replanting and monitoring will be essential. In-stream restoration will also take place to ensure three sensitive and a threatened fish species -- the Santa Ana sucker, arroyo chub, and the Santa Ana speckled dace -- are able to fully recover and thrive in the watershed.

"The WCB's investment signals the urgency and importance of ensuring these treasured places are not only healthy, but also accessible to the millions of diverse residents who live nearby. The NFF is grateful for the WCB's vote of confidence in our work on this exciting project," said Bill Possiel, NFF President.

The NFF will work with the Forest Service to implement project tasks from now until June 2017, except chaparral restoration which will run through June 2018. The Forest Service has interdisciplinary teams of hydrologists, fisheries biologists, wildlife biologists, ecologists, botanists and recreational resource managers who will continue to provide monitoring and required resource protection measures on an ongoing basis as needed.

For more information about the Angeles National Forest and the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, please visit: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/angeles/>

Orphaned Bear

An starved and apparently-orphaned bear in the Chaney Trail neighborhood has been rescued with some daring action by residents. Lori Paul, who with Rob Staehle lives in the neighborhood and are forest preservation activists

As some of you know, a very tiny, starved bear cub has been seen wandering our neighborhood in the vicinity of Alzada Road and Jaxine Drive for over a week. The little cinnamon-colored bear is smaller than a large cat and it was clear that she should not be so far from her mother, but there was no mama bear around. Such a small and helpless bear could not survive long in the "wild" or in our neighborhood.



After a sighting of the tiny bear at our house last weekend just before the Chaney Trail block party, Rob and I came to the conclusion that its mother must be dead, because black bears are very protective mothers and this cub was very lost, scruffy, and terribly thin. The first time we saw her, we were unsuccessful in cornering the bear and throwing a blanket over her. It was sad to see her desperation and know how vulnerable she was to starvation or attack by predators, but there was nothing more we could do. Once she got down the slope into dense chaparral, we could not find her as it was getting dark.

To my knowledge, there have been no reports of an adult, female bear hit by a car or found dead in our area. Deer hunting season has sometimes provided cover for hunters who poach other species, including black bears. Black bear gallbladders fetch good money in a black market fueled by use of the gallbladders in Asian "medicine." Bear teeth, skulls, claws and pelts are also gruesomely popular. Just in case someone has been hunting bears illegally in this area, we decided not to post information about the tiny bear on the listserv. I did inform a few neighbors living adjacent to wild areas about the bear and asked everyone to watch out for her, then call me if the cub was sighted.

Monday morning, Andrea Griffin called Rob and I while we were eating breakfast outside on our patio. She said she had seen the tiny bear! The cub had raided Andrea's small pond and killed two koi. Andrea felt very sorry for the obviously hungry little bear, though losing her beautiful fish was very unfortunate. She let us know that the tiny bear had run off in the direction of the grassy area across the street... and she was very worried for its welfare.

While I was discussing the lost bear cub with Andrea on our portable phone, Rob told me "Lori, the bear is right behind you..." I looked around, and down, and there, sure enough, was the tiny bear on the ground about 10 inches away from me! It ambled past me, then noticed that Rob was moving. Brian Trease next door was on his way out to his car, and saw the little bear on the edge of our patio on the top of the wall along our driveway. Rob quickly went inside to grab a large shark net we have on hand. (The strong net is for others to use in capturing our rock iguana during an emergency, such as earthquake or wildfire.) Brian and I used our positions to herd the little bear into the landscaping next our house and towards the corner where Rob was likely to show up with the net. Rob came around the corner and the tiny bear became scared enough to attempt to climb a tree next to the house; however, she was so weak and scared that she only got a meter up the trunk. As that happened, Rob swooped the big net down on her and we caught the bear!

(cont p12)

Orphaned Bear (cont)

Brian and I held the perimeter of the net down while Rob went to find a pet carrier (one of the carriers we keep ready with newspapers and a towel for animal evacuation). I gently held the bear by her shoulders through the net while she struggled bravely to dig or push her way out. We didn't want her to tear the net open with her sizable claws or hurt herself. The tiny bear was very frightened and "bawled" for her mother a few times, which was rather heartrending. Her body felt very thin and frail. While she did not want to be restrained, at no time did she try to bite.

In a minute or so, Rob returned with the carrier, but we decided it would be best to transfer the bear from the net to the carrier in a secure area, so Rob scooped the bear up in the deep net, held the net closed at the top with one hand while holding the handle in the other. I brought the carrier inside behind him, and Brian joined us to open doors and help. We got the bear into our small, tiled bathroom... placed the net opening over the carrier doorway... and let the little bear retreat into the darkness inside the carrier. We quickly closed the carrier door shut and the little bear was safely in custody! To place a crock of water in the carrier, I diverted the bear's attention by dropping a few cat kibbles into the back of the carrier. The bear calmed down and munched happily on the kibbles. While occupied looking for kibbles in the towel, Rob opened the carrier door and placed the bowl of water inside.

I immediately called a wildlife rescue organization (CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife-approved) located about an hour away about the tiny bear. The terrific folks there agreed to take the bear. For the time being, their veterinarian has requested that I not reveal the facility's name and location on social media, because when word gets out that they have a baby bear many interested persons have, in the past, simply shown up unannounced and caused quite a bit of disturbance. In a week or so, I will get an update on the bear's condition and let you all know where donations can be sent for the bear's care, should you wish to help. It is very time-consuming and costly to properly raise a bear for eventual release. Rob and I provided a much-appreciated \$50 cash donation when we dropped the cub off. That's a small start towards covering the cub's exam, food, ongoing care and various future expenses.

I stayed with the little bear at the facility and met with their staff and veterinarian. He determined that "Alzada" (named for location where the bear was observed) is female and severely undernourished. She only weighs 9 lbs 7 oz, though she is approximately 5 months old! A bear that age should weigh two to two-and-a-half times more than Alzada. Other than being underweight, she is in fairly good condition, considering she's been without her mother's care for at least 2 weeks. She was slightly dehydrated and anemic, but that is to be expected under the circumstances. Alzada needs food, warmth, and rest. She can finally let her guard down, though there is no doubt that she greatly misses her mama bear and remains lonely and anxious. You can see the worry in her eyes.

Note: it is slightly possible that this bear cub has a sibling out there. Bears often have two cubs. Alzada's mother may have had only one cub, or, there may have been two cubs, but one has already died. Regardless, please keep an eye out for a second tiny bear. Please call Rob and I if you see another little bear! 626.798.3235 I've been told that an older, teenage black bear has been seen in La Vina or thereabouts without its mother. Though we will likely never know for sure, it may be that two local, adult mother bears are missing and possibly dead.

(cont p13)

Orphaned Bear (cont)

The evening of the rescue, I reported finding the little bear to a CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife warden. He was supportive and happy we were able to save the bear. I expressed the desire to release Alzada back into our local population (where cinnamon and blond "black" bears are common). That has been noted in the bear's file. Local release is consistent with the DF&W's policy to keep distinct gene groups together whenever possible. Alzada is now resting comfortably where she has a warm bed, abundant food, and clean water. I was told that Tuesday she ate peaches, apples, and oatmeal with vitamin and mineral supplements in it. She is finally safe and it is possible that she will make a full recovery, grow to be a normal adult (bears are very resilient), and might perhaps be releasable back in the San Gabriel Mountains north of us when she is self-sufficient and ready for independence. Alzada is properly afraid of people and not willing to be "cuddled" at all, which is the way a bear should behave.

Once Alzada has gained weight, is in better health, and less emotionally stressed, she will be transported to a black bear rescue center near Lake Tahoe. That organization has successfully raised several black bears (including wildfire burn victims) and may currently have a small, orphan black bear cub that would be good company for our little bear. With a companion, Alzada would be happier and more likely to grow into a strong, well-adjusted, wild bear who is not imprinted on humans.

That's the BEAR-y good news for now! Stand by for updates on Alzada's condition as I receive more information... I hope you will consider a donation in support of Alzada bear when I get authorization to reveal her whereabouts and to identify her dedicated caretakers. Every little bit counts. Support for this little bear will free up existing, limited funds to help other wild animals who are injured or orphaned.

**Anyone interested in helping donate for Alzada's care
can call Lori Paul: 626.798.3235**

Volunteers Needed

Gabrielino Trail Help

The Gabrielino Trail from Red Box to West Fork has been worked by volunteer crews in the past and is on the list for future trail work. Bear in mind we have over 375 miles of trails in the Los Angeles River Ranger District alone and the majority were damaged or destroyed by the Station Fire so it will be a long time before all trails are restored to a degree considered adequate. Some of the damage is so extensive that contractors have been hired to help restore the trails and in fact a project will begin on the Strawberry Peak/Colby Canyon Trail the first of next month to restore the washed-out areas. Forest Service partners such as the National Forest Foundation and Friends of the Forest are actively participating in restoration efforts. The Gabrielino Trail has had several Boy Scout Troops as well as other volunteer groups provide maintenance. We are always looking for more volunteers to assist throughout the District. If you know of anyone interested, please contact me.

Thanks,
Dennis Merkel, CPRP, FPO
District Recreation Officer
Los Angeles River Ranger District
Angeles National Forest

Phone: 818 899-1900 Ext 229

Fax: 818 896-6727 Email: dcmerkel@fs.fed.us

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



**A section of Mount Lowe West Trail partially blocked by brush
by George Aumann**

**This section of the Mount Lowe West Trail is now open, thanks to the work of the JPL Trailbuilders
by George Aumann**



**Dave Fleischman/Trail Gorillas working on Station Fire Rehab at Sec D , Mt Gleason
by Pete Fish**

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



**Dave Fleischman/Trail Gorillas
completing the work on Station Fire
Rehab at Sec D , Mt Gleason
by Pete Fish**

**Strawberry trail work. AMP &
Corba cutting back brush &
extra off the trail..
by Mike and Robin McGuire**



**Volunteers enjoying the
MWBA Pancake breakfast
with Tom Contereras
by Mike and Robin McGuire**

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

- The 28th Annual AC100 Race for 2015 is full!
- The race for 2016 on-line registration will begin on August 3, 2015 @ 12:00 Noon, following the conclusion of the 2015 race..

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail KeepersMark 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.rmcguire@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

- Help rebuild Vetter Mtn Fire Lookout with a purchase of a reusable tote bag for \$5.
- **BECOME 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 pammorey@fs.fed.us or 909-744-9510 ext. 125
- **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.orgavconservancy@yahoo.com Face book: Antelope Valley Conservancy

PHONE (661) 943-9000

- 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!

Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy <http://www.arroyosfoothills.org/>John Howell, (626) 796-0782 johnrhowell@earthlink.net

Face book: Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

If you have any questions, please email Jennifer Taylor at jennifertaylor@arroyosfoothills.org or call AFC at 626.796.0782 We'll see you there!

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

Andy Hoyer abhoyer@yahoo.com
213-675-0420

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Blight Busters Trail Crew

Danny Treadway dayhiker86@yahoo.com

Boy Scouts of America Los Angeles Area Council

<http://www.laac-hat.org/>

Big Santa Anita Canyon

<http://www.bigsantaanitacanyon.com/>

- Open Year round, 6 am to 8 pm every day.
- The road is gated and the gate is locked at night.
 - Be sure to return to your car before 7:30 pm or you may not get out!
 - During and after heavy rains, fires, or after significant earthquakes, and during fire alerts the road may be closed.
- The Sierra Madre Police Dept. is in charge of locking/unlocking the gate. If you are concerned that the road might be closed you can call them for info: 626 355-1414.
- Adams Pack Station Contact: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (626) 447-7356

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC)

<http://www.ctuc.info/ctuc/>

• NOV 19th MEETING

Come and Join Us CTUC meets 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

CITY OF GLENDALE <http://www.glendaleparksfoundation.org>

Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept

818-548-2000

Your Friends in Trails and Open Space

• Dec 6th Bird Talk on the Riverwalk (see page 7)

Learn about the birds that are in this area during the winter months. This program is free, but space is limited. You must R.S.V.P. to (818) 548-3795 to reserve your spot.

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel email: zuliebear@aol.com

• **Dec 6th - Chantry Flat/ Sturtevant Falls , looping back to Adam's Mule Packing station.**

Description: The trail starts at Chantry Flat on a paved road, then becomes a single track trail past Roberts' camp and then to Sturtevant Falls. After a rest we will hike back to Roberts' camp and follow another hiking road back to Chantry Flat to complete a loop. The hike is well shaded and usually has water flowing year round. There is lots of greenery and rustic charm.

PARKING: NOTE, this trailhead is very popular, parking can be difficult. By far the most difficult thing with this hike is figuring out where to park. The lot opens at 6 AM and is usually full by AM. For this reason, we have to leave early and we recommend carpooling. On weekends, parking can be backed up a half mile down the road. If you are not able to park in the main lot for free or the paying lot above it, then you need an Adventure pass on display to park along the approach road, if you want to avoid a ticket.

Directions to Trailhead: From the 210 Fwy in Arcadia heading East, take the Santa Anita Ave. exit. Turn left (North) on to Santa Anita Ave and drive 6 miles until the road deadends at Chantry Flat.

Carpool: Meet at the Towsley Canyon front parking lot at 6:15 AM. Carpool arrangements will be made at that time and we leave at 6:30 SHARP. Please be respectful of your driver's support by contributing something at the end of your carpool to help defray the cost of gas.

Meet your Leader at the Trailhead: The group will meet at 07:30 AM at the lower trailhead as you enter (where the Restrooms are).

Bring: A snack/lunch, water (3 liters is recommended), electrolytes if it is a hot day, sunscreen, hat, hiking poles if you have them, and your camera. Wear layered clothing and good boots with tread.

Bring some money if you want to enjoy a cold beer or a hot dog at Adams Pack Station (established 1936) at the end of the hike. if we are lucky they will have their pulled pork sandwich.

Hike Length: 6 Miles with 700 feet elevation gain.

Rating: Easy++ to Moderate **Leader:** Steve

• **Dec 7th - Dagger Flats Trail Work with Boston Scientific's Environmental "Green Team"**

THIS IS NOT A HIKE, but we would love to see you anyway!

Description: We are restoring a trail that has been unused for about 30 years. Please RSVP as soon as possible, but don't RSVP if you cannot make it. I bring tools according to the RSVPs. (zuliebear@aol.com or RSVP via meetup)

Directions to Meeting spot: Take the I-5 to the SR-14 North. Exit at Sand Canyon, turn right (South/East). Go all the way past all the houses, Placerita Canyon etc., going straight. Enter the Angeles National Forest and continue up!up!up! Sand Canyon Road until you see a memorial at a bad corner (on the right side). Shortly after this you will see a brown sign "Santa Clara Divide Road". Park in one of the turn outs to the left, right, or above this sign.

Meeting Time: We will meet PROMPTLY for this one event at 7:00 AM, and leave no later than 7:10 AM. We carpool in past a locked gate, 4 miles on 3N17 to the trail head, due to limited parking at the trailhead. PLEASE BE PROMPT as we must relock the gate.

Quitting Time: 12:00-12:30 PM

Bring: Water, snacks, camera, band-aids, TP (there are no bathrooms), hand wipes, garden gloves, sunscreen, electrolytes, sun hat, and anything else you can think of to make you more comfortable and happy on the trail! Thank you for helping us bring back this trail so we can all enjoy it.

Leader: Dianne/ Steve **Rated:** Moderate – **THIS IS NOT A HIKE !**

Community Hiking Club (CONT)

• Dec 13th - Sights and Sounds of the Season - Sawmill Mtn. via Mt. Pinos - Easy or Moderate?

Description: Listen to the swush of the wind as it gently caresses the huge pines teasing out their festive fragrance and drops more pine cones to the forest floor. There should be the nip of Winter in the air and maybe a promise of snow. This 7 mile hike takes in 2 summits (Mount Pinos and then Sawmill Mountain). The nice thing is that you can make it an "Easy" or "Moderate" hike. The hike is an "out and back", regardless of which one you chose and is well marked, so you can turn around after the "Easy" hike or whenever you like after that. Moderate hikers should be easily able to complete both summits. Beginners can summit Mt. Pinos, enjoy the views, and fresh mountain air before heading back down to the parking lot at their own pace.

First, we will summit Mt. Pinos (8831 ft.) from the Trail head (8340 ft.) for an "Easy" 4 mile Round Trip hike, made a little more difficult due to the altitude. Then, if you continue with us to Sawmill Mountain (8818 ft), we will add another 3 miles RT and 600 ft of gain to give us a 7 mile total and 1100 ft. gain "Moderate" hike. Mount Pinos is the highest point in Ventura County and lies on the edge of the Chumash Wilderness of the Los Padres National Forest. Mount Pinos, created over 100 million years ago was known as Iwihinmu to the indigenous Chumash people. The slopes are a mix of sub-alpine, white fir, and Jeffrey Pine habitats. The views from Mount Pinos are beautiful, including the patchwork quilt of agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley to the north, the Tehachapis to the east, and the Carrizo Plain and Temblor Mountains to the northwest.

Bring: Poles if you have them, lunch/ snacks, bug spray, bug net, 3 liters of water, sunscreen, lip balm. The views are spectacular, so bring your camera.

Adventure Pass: Required ,when parking at the Mt. Pinos Trail head (These can be obtained at Sports Chalet in Stevenson Ranch or any BIG 5 Sporting Goods store; \$5 for a day pass, \$30 for a year pass.

Directions (from Santa Clarita Valley): Allow 1 1/4 hours to get to trailhead from Santa Clarita. Take the I-5 North ~ 40 miles to the Frazier Park off ramp. Exit, turn left under highway. Go West on the Frazier Park Road for about 12 miles passing Lockhart Valley Road (on the left) until you see signs for Mt. Pinos. Stay to the left at the fork and follow the road as it twists and turns 9 miles up the mountain to the Nordic Hut parking area at the very top. Park on the left side, by the Mt Pinos trailhead, and look for us there.

If you wish to carpool - meet at Towsley Canyon at 6.45 AM for a 7.00 AM SHARP departure. Please be respectful of your driver's support by contributing something at the end of your carpool to help defray the cost of gas - THX. Those intending to do only Mt. Pinos are encouraged to carpool with other "Easy hikers", or drive alone to avoid waiting for the rest of a carpool.

Meet your leader: At the Mt Pinos parking lot trail head at 8:15 AM; we will depart up the trail to Mt Pinos at 8:30 AM SHARP.

Rating: Easy to Moderate, depending on the distance you cover. **Leader:** Steve I.

• Dec 20th -Quick break from Shopping - Vasquez Rocks, only a 5 Miler

Description: George will be taking you on an easy to moderate hike through some of the most beautiful and well known areas of Vasquez Rocks. You will recognize many of the features from television and feature films. You will pass the most prominent rock just before you get to the parking area. We will hike some of the many trails in the park for about 5 miles.

Directions: 10700 Escondido Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA. Vasquez Rocks Natural Area Park is located near Agua Dulce Springs, north of the 14 -Palmdale freeway. The park is about midway between Santa Clarita and Palmdale.

From Valencia, take the SR-14 North to the Aqua Dulce Canyon Road exit. Exit and turn left. Continue on this road. It will take a sharp curve to the right. It will become Escondido Canyon Road. Continue straight through the stop sign. Look for the Vasquez Rocks Park entrance on the right. When you enter the driveway for Vasquez Rocks, make a left hand turn at the partial asphalt/dirt road. Follow this road all the way to the end where there is a dirt parking lot.

Bring: A snack/lunch, water (3 liters is recommended), electrolytes if it is a hot day, sunscreen, hat, hiking poles if you have them, and your camera. Wear layered clothing in case it gets hot or cold and good boots with tread. Adventure Pass: Not required. Dogs: OK, if on leash and well-behaved.

Meet your leader: Meet in the parking lot East of the large rock spires at 8:00 AM for an 8:15 AM SHARP departure. (This is the lot FARTHEST to the left of the entrance.)

Distance: About 5 miles

Rating: Easy to Moderate **Leader:** George

Community Hiking Club (CONT)

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

• Dec 27th - "Extended Family" Holiday Hike - Whitney Canyon to the Waterfall (Short and Shady)

Here is a great hike to get those out of town guests out of the house and burning calories after the Holidays. It is such a pleasant and easy "out and back" hike that you can bring Gran, the grandkids and the new puppy. This is a beautiful flat (barely) 5 mile hike through a riparian area with shade along most of the route. Your hike will start off on a dirt road, but after about a half mile, it becomes a single track all the way to a little waterfall. The waterfall is dry this time of year, but there might still be wildflowers all along the riparian corridor.

Bring: An extra layer if it is particularly chilly. It is short but you might like to bring a snack, lots of water, sun protection/hat.

Meet you Leader: At Sierra Highway / Newhall Ave Park and Ride (Whitney Canyon trailhead), by the gate, at 8:00 AM for an 8:15 AM SAHARP departure down the trail. We should be back by about 10:30 AM latest.
RAIN CANCELS ALL HIKES.

Directions: From Valencia, take the I-5 freeway south to the SR-14 North. Exit at Newhall Avenue. Take the right at the fork on the off-ramp. When you reach the stop sign, turn right. This will lead you quickly to the Park and Ride. Parking here is free. NOTE: If the Park and Ride is full, you may park in the MRCA lot (\$7.00). It is wise to come a little early to secure a parking spot in the Park and Ride. Look for your leader at the green MRCA gate by the green sign at the top/left of the Park and Ride.

Leader: Lise **Rated:** Easy, suitable for newcomers and family.

• Jan 1st - Los Pinetos to Wilson Saddle

Join us for our annual New Year's Day hike! Today we'll meet at the Walker Ranch Trail head and take the Los Pinetos Trail up to 3N17, then follow it all the way to Wilson Saddle. Total Mileage is about 5 1/2 miles with about 1000 ft. gain.

Bring: Snacks, lunch, lots of water and wear boots with good tread. If you have poles, they will be helpful going up Los Pinetos. Your camera also....there will be ample opportunity for some nice shots!

Meet: At Walker Ranch Trail head (by the road)

19152 Placerita Canyon Road. 2 miles East of / beyond Placerita Canyon Nature Center, Newhall, CA
Meet at the gate at 9:45 AM for a 10:00 AM SHARP departure.

Directions to Walker Ranch Trailhead: From the I-5 freeway, take the SR-14 North to Placerita Canyon Road. Exit. Turn right. Go about 4 miles into the Canyon. You will see the Walker Ranch Trail head on your right side. There will be a large wooden sign. **Rating:** Moderate due to gain **Leader:** Dianne

HABITAT WORKS <http://www.habitatwork.org>

Kim Clark or Tom Persons 818-353-4653

For more information call or e-mail to: wildlife@habitatwork.org

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center www.haramokngna.org

663-449-8975.

• **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

High Country Riders

Forest wide equestrian volunteer group that packs Equipment, Material and Supplies etc. to your Trail or worksite. Packs Trash & Rubbish out of the Forest.

Contacts: Jonathan Schultz phone: 951-830-3400

e-mail: maujds@earthlink.net

- Forest Certified Animal Packer
- Master Teacher for "LNT"
- "C" Crosscut Saw Certifier
- Chainsaw "B" faller

Contacts: Glen Foster phone: 760-949-3497 or 760-508-0344

• Certified Packer e-mail: pjgwfooster@aol.com

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

Kathie Reilly 626-379-8429 (cell)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

(Rain day before or day of outing cancels the outing)

- Dec 6th Outing
- Dec 27th Outing

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

As we keep repeating, we next intend to continue maintenance of the Mt Lowe West Trail from where we left off about the middle going toward the summit. There's a large patch of poodle dog there.

This time of year, it seems to be less threatening. Besides, some of our group seem immune to it, so they can tackle those parts. The rest of us can cut back the rapidly growing scrub oak, and repair tread.

Mount Wilson Bicycling Association <http://mwba.org/>

Contact: Mitch Marich, info@mwba.org

- Dec 12th 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, MWBA Trailwork

We took the sage advice of our forbearers and made a point to become more regular. So, if you've ever had the desire to volunteer and give back to the community and you are a trail user, why not come out and do some trail work with us? We are out there the third weekend of EVERY month! Sometimes we work on a Saturday, but mainly we are out there on a Sunday.

Check back <http://mwba.org/> or email info@mwba.org for information on a particular month. So Regular

MWBA is excited to announce our new collaboration with Southern California Outdoor Adventurers (SCOA). SCOA provides legal shuttle service to various trail heads in the San Gabriel Mountains, for those days when you want to go full hog on your dh bike or you only have enough time to ride down the mountain without "earning" your ride.

Here is your chance to earn your ride but in a different capacity. Come work on the trails with us and get a free shuttle ride! It's pretty simple; there are only 3 steps.

- 1. Send an email** to trailworktoride@mwba.org and let us know you plan on joining us for an upcoming trail day. Remember, we work on the trails every 3rd weekend of every month. We will make sure SCOA knows you earned your ride.
- 2. Show up for trail day** and work. Initially, you must perform 2 trail work days to earn your first free ride, but after that, each subsequent trail work day will earn you a shuttle ride.
- 3. Schedule your shuttle service online** at <http://scoaoutdoors.net> and ride! As with all offers that are almost too good to be true, there is fine print and you should learn it, love it and live it.

Fine print: Redeemable shuttles are 4:30 PM on Saturdays and Sundays and 5:30 PM or later shuttles during the week. Earned rides are not transferable.

Unused rides are zeroed out December 31st each year. Use it or lose it.

Mount Wilson Institute

P. O. Box 1909, Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1909

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

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.

- **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.
- **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.
- **Be a Docent Tour Guide** - We welcome applications from individuals interested in participating as docents in our very active guided tour programs.

For application information go to:

<http://www.mtwilson.edu/docents.php>.

Mount Wilson Race

<http://www.mountwilsontrailrace.com/HOME.html>

Plans are being made for the May 30th, 2015 race!

Pete Siberell Chair, Mt. Wilson Trail Race

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 26

- **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

SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org>

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 Trail Builders in the continued restoration process for trails in and around Crystal Lake, East Fork, Heaton Flats, Upper & Lower Bear Creek, the Baldy Area and many other locations on the Angeles National Forest.

Learn how to use all the Trail tools to work the trails. Help you learn how to get your certificates for Chainsaw and Crosscut Saws use on the National forest.

If you would like to volunteer your time, please send e-mail to feedback@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 @ 7:30 am

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

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919 E-mail: Emworks@verizon.net

- Dec 6th MOUNT LOWE EXCURSION 2014 (see page 9)

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

1750 North Altadena Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107

213-387-4287

For more calendar details go to <http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena/outings2.asp>

- Dec 3rd Holiday Benefit Night at Burger Continental
- Dec 4th Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Dec 6th South Pasadena Historic Walk
- Dec 11th Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Dec 13th Mt Hollywood (1625')
- Dec 18th Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Dec 25th NO Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike (Due to Christmas)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS FOUNDATION

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

602 South Tippecanoe, San Bernardino, California 92408

For more calendar details go to <http://mountainsfoundation.org/calendar?year=2014&month=12>

- Story Time Dec 27th

Tree People

<http://www.treepeople.org>

FACEBOOK: TreePeople

12601 Mulholland Drive

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

For more calendar details go to: <http://www.treepeople.org/calendar/2014-12>

- Angeles Forest Restoration Supervisor Training Dec 14th
- Drought Response Park Tree Care Dec 6th
- Drought Solutions Tour and Native Plant Walk Dec 13th/20th
- Industrial District Green Tree Care Dec 6th
- Moonlight Hike Dec 5th
- Park Work Day Dec 4th/11th/13th/18th
- Santa Monica Mountains Restoration Dec 6th/13th/14th/20th/21st

Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest

<http://www.grassyhollow.net>

Wrightwood, CA

Visitor Center Phone #: (626) 821-6737

Loren Lake lorenll@verizon.net

- The Grassy Hollow Visitor Center and Grounds are open for day-use only
Hours: Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Weekdays- for school groups, youth organizations, etc. By Appointment

William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF Crew 135

Kevin Sarkissian Lead Instructor

W S Hart Union High School District

Outdoor Recreation and Wilderness Conservation - ANF Crew 135

Regional Occupational Program

21515 Centre Pointe Parkway

Santa Clarita, CA 91350

661.877.7024 661.250.0022 X 552

www.hartrop.com/forestry www.facebook.com/ropforestry

- Taking a break until spring

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter, Los Angeles Times Apr 2, 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: _____