

# 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 November 2014



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



#### Research Stations and Research Work Units

The Forest Service Research and Development area includes five research stations, the Forest Products Laboratory and the International Institute of Tropical Forestry in Puerto Rico. Station directors, like regional Foresters, report to the Chief. Research stations include Northern, Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Rocky Mountain, and Southern. There are 92 research work units located at 67 sites throughout the United States.



there are 80 Experimental Forests and Ranges that have been established progressively since 1908; many sites are more than 50 years old. The system provides places for long-term science and management studies in major vegetation types of the 195 million acres of public land administered by the Forest Service. Individual sites range from 47 to 22,500 acres in size.

Operations of Experimental Forests and Ranges are directed by local research teams for the individual sites, by Research Stations for the regions in which they are located, and at the level of the Forest Service.

Major themes in research at the Experimental Forests and Ranges includes: develop of systems for managing and restoring forests, range lands, and watersheds; investigate the workings of forest and stream ecosystems; characterize plant and animal communities; observe and interpret long-term environmental change and many other themes.

(cont on p2)

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

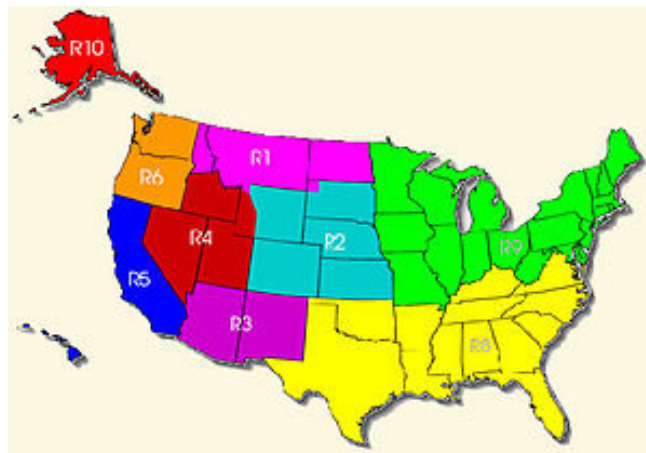
**SOMEWHERE, SOMETHING  
INCREDIBLE IS WAITING TO BE  
KNOWN ~ Carl Sagan**

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## Getting to Know the USFS (cont)

There are nine regions in the USDA Forest Service; numbered 1 through 10 (Region 7 was eliminated in 1965 when the current Eastern Region was created from the former Eastern and North Central regions). Each region encompasses a broad geographic area, and is headed by a Regional Forester who reports directly to the Chief.

Map of the nine regions



The Regional Forester has broad responsibility for coordinating activities among the various forests within the region, for providing overall leadership for regional natural resource and social programs, and for coordinated regional land use planning.

- **Northern Region:** based in Missoula MT, the Northern Region (R1) covers five states (Montana, Northern Idaho, North Dakota, Northwestern South Dakota and Northeast Washington), twelve National Forests and one National Grassland.
- **Rocky Mountain:** based in Golden CO, the Rocky Mountain Region (R2) covers five states (Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas and most of Wyoming and South Dakota), sixteen National Forests and seven National Grasslands.
- **Southwestern:** based in Albuquerque NM, the Southwestern Region (R3) covers two states (New Mexico and Arizona) and eleven National Forests.
- **Intermountain:** based in Ogden UT, the Intermountain Region (R4) covers four states (Southern Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Western Wyoming), twelve national forests.
- **Pacific Southwest:** based in Vallejo CA, The Pacific Southwest Region (R5) covers two states (California and Hawaii), eighteen National Forests and one Management Unit.
- **Pacific Northwest:** based in Portland OR the Pacific Northwest Region (R6) covers two states (Washington and Oregon), twenty-one National Forests and one National Scenic Area.
- **Southern:** based in Atlanta GA, the Southern Region (R8) covers thirteen states (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Oklahoma and Virginia; and Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands), and thirty-four National Forests.
- **Eastern:** based in Milwaukee WI, the Eastern Region (R9) covers twenty states (Maine, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Indiana, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, Delaware, and New Jersey), seventeen National Forests, one Grassland and America's Outdoors Center for Conservation, Recreation, and Resources.
- **Alaska:** based in Juneau AK, the Alaska Region (R10) covers one state (Alaska), and two National Forests.

### National Forest or Grassland

The Forest Service oversees 155 national forests and 20 grasslands. Each administrative unit typically comprises several ranger districts, under the overall direction of a Forest Supervisor. Within the supervisor's office, the staff coordinates activities among districts, allocates the budget, and provides technical support to each district. Forest Supervisors are line officers and report to Regional Foresters.

### Ranger District

The Forest Service has more than 600 ranger districts. Each district has a staff of 10 to 100 people under the direction of a District Ranger, a line officer who reports to a Forest Supervisor. The districts vary in size from 50,000 acres to more than 1 million acres. Most on-the-ground activities occur on ranger districts, including trail construction and maintenance, operation of campgrounds, and management of vegetation and wildlife habitat.

OCT 12, 1989 page: J1

## Looking Out for a Piece of the past

By SIOK-IIIAN TAY KELLEY  
TIME STAFF WRITER

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST-- The roof is rotted, the smashed windows have been boarded up, and the railings of its creaky walkway are badly rusted. Scrub oak, buckthorn and pine grow amid a jumble of boulders, and red-tailed hawks soar overhead.

In its present condition it is hard to imagine that the lookout cabin once played an important part in safeguarding Angeles National Forest against fires.

But it is precisely that importance that has earned a new lease on life for the weather-worn cabin perched on a craggy outcrop of Mt. Vetter, nearly 6,000 feet above a fork of the Big Tujunga Canyon.

The 13-by-13-foot "ground cab," as U.S. Forest Service archeologist Mike McIntyre calls it, was the last in a line of 22 lookouts that have come and gone since the first one was built in 1927.

It was retired as a fire lookout a decade ago and since then has fallen on hard times. But thanks to surplus timber sales by national forests in Northern California last year, the Forest Service has acquired funds to launch a \$16,000 project that will give two of three surviving lookouts a face lift and preserve them as historic displays.

"When you think of the Forest Service, you think of Smokey the Bear and the ranger in the lookout watching for fires," said McIntyre, who spearheaded the restoration drive. "We want to turn this into an interpretive exhibit."

Aiding in the restoration effort will be the Big Santa Anita Historical Society in Arcadia. It pledged \$5,000 toward refurbishing the bare lookout cabins at Vetter, 10 miles north of Arcadia, and at South Mt. Hawkins, 12 miles east of Vetter. A third cabin, built in the 1960s, did not fare so well and will not be restored: It rests unused on a steel tower at Mt. Slide, overlooking Pyramid Lake.

Forest Service personnel and volunteers will begin patching up the cabins in coming months. It costs too much to bring a carpenter in to do the job, McIntyre said.

Glen Owens, president of the historical society, said many of the old forest lodges and mountain taverns have been destroyed or allowed to decay.

"There's not a whole lot of history left in the forest structurally," Owens said.

Both lookouts under restoration are eligible for inclusion in the federal National Register of Historic Places. That means that every rotted plank removed must be replaced with the same type of wood.

"It adds to the cost, but it's well worth it," said McIntyre, who is applying to have the cabins formally designated as historic.

After the restorations are finished, McIntyre hopes to get volunteer groups to adopt the cabins to help with their maintenance, he said, suggesting as possible helpers Boy Scout troops, firefighters' organizations or environmental associations.

The eventual goal is for volunteers to live in trailers at the cabin site, acting as security guards and providing visitors with historical information.

The lookouts are part of the lore of firefighting's past in the Angeles National Forest.

Before the advent of the cabins, park rangers would simply nail pieces of wood to a tree and climb up for a good perch, McIntyre said. Others would camp at a high point armed with a fire-finder, which resembles a large compass overlaying a map.

**(cont on p4)**

## IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES (CONT)

When lookout cabins came into use, the person on watch would remain at the station for six or seven months during the fire season each year. In the early 1950s the Forest Service had more than 5,000 manned fire lookouts nationwide. Today fewer than 600 remain; fewer than 100 of those are in California.

In Angeles Forest, propane stoves were used for cooking, and water had to be hauled up in five-gallon cans.

"It's a very solitary life," McIntyre said.

Sandy De Lapp, a Forest Service accountant, lived alone atop a 30-foot-high wooden tower in the South Mt. Hawkins lookout cab from 1952 until it was closed in 1980.

"Everybody thinks it's so romantic. But it's just a job," said De Lapp, conceding that she did enjoy the peace and quiet.

Between fires she read "everything you could get your hands on," from Tolstoy to the history of World War II, she said. She put out a pan of water for the birds and deer and fed a skunk that almost became a pet. And she always remained watchful for the warning puffs of smoke.

"You automatically just looked all the time," said De Lapp, who has watched more fires start than she cares to count.

She learned to stay alert for the lightning bolt that lingered for more than a second on a branch of a tree, "especially if it had a red tip."

"Lookouts were critical at a time when there weren't many people in the forest," McIntyre said. At one time they reported about 70% of the fires that started, but their importance faded as more people started using the forest recreationally.

More roads penetrated the terrain, and rangers began to regularly patrol campgrounds. Twenty-four fire stations now serve the forest's 693,000 acres.

And because the forest lies under the flight path to Ontario International Airport, even airline pilots began to call in reports of fires, said Gordon Rowley, Forest Service fire management specialist.

If a blaze is sighted, "the airline will call the tower, and the tower will call us," said Rowley, adding that by the time the lookouts were abandoned, they were reporting only 3% of the fires.

Even though they are now obsolete, Owens said, "we have to understand what people used to do,

## IN THE LOS ANGELES TIMES FLASH FORWARD!

The Mt. Vetter fire lookout is now being replaced (due to the Station Fire ) and will be cared for by the Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association. The Forest Fire Lookout Association (FFLA), founded in 1990, is an organization involved in research of current and former forest fire lookout sites, ground cabins and early forest fire detection methods. It promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of Lookouts.

### INTERESTED IN HELPING?

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION

<http://www.anffla.org>

Pam Morey [pammorey@fs.fed.us](mailto:pammorey@fs.fed.us)

Forest Care Program Coordinator

909-744-9510 ext. 125

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## San Gabriel Mountains National Monument

On Oct. 10, 2014, President Barack Obama designated 346,177 acres of existing federal lands as the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, the eighth national monument under Forest Service management.

The nation's newest monument covers 342,177 acres of the Angeles National Forest and 4,002 acres of neighboring San Bernardino National Forest. The area is within 90 minutes of 15 million people in the Los Angeles Basin.

The designation will help ensure these lands remain a benefit for all Americans through rock art that provides a glimpse into ancient civilizations, an observatory that brought the world the cosmos, and thousands of miles of streams, hiking trails and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

Soaring high above the Los Angeles Basin, the San Gabriel Mountains also are working lands that provide Angelesños 70 percent of their available open space and 30 percent of their drinking water. The monument serves as the backyard to the nation's second-largest urban center.

Monument highlights include:

## Biodiversity

The San Gabriel Mountains contains some of the greatest biodiversity in the country, including four wilderness areas – **Magic Mountain, Pleasant View Ridge, San Gabriel, and Sheep Mountain** – and unique geological features such as the San Andreas Fault. Other highlights are:

- The rivers of the San Gabriel Mountains not only provide drinking water but are vital in the support of native fish, animals and plants and provide critical habitat for threatened or endangered species such as the California condor, mountain yellow-legged frog, arroyo chub fish and Nelson's bighorn sheep.
- The chaparral and oak woodland are just some of the vegetation that represent a portion of the rare Mediterranean ecosystem found in only 3 percent of the. The area also provides suitable habitat for 53 Forest Service Sensitive Plants and as many as 300 California-endemic species that only grow in the San Gabriel Range.

## Scientific Discovery

Science and research have been and continue to be an integral part of the monument area, most notably the Mount Wilson Observatory and the San Dimas Experimental Forest.

- Edwin Powell Hubble, working from the Mount Wilson Observatory, is credited with making some of the most striking discoveries in modern astronomy, such as concluding that distant stars were really galaxies. That finding forever changed the way astronomers looked at the skies.
- The San Dimas Experimental Forest, established in 1933, contains some of the earliest and longest records from continuously monitored, experimental watersheds in the U.S. It is the only research forest in Southern California, and many of the facilities were constructed by the depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps and Work Projects Administration labor programs. In 1976, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Man and the Biosphere Program recognized the San Dimas Experimental Forest as a "Biosphere Reserve."

(cont p6)

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## San Gabriel Mountains National Monument (cont)

### Human dimension

The monument holds evidence of more than 8,000 years of human history, including more than 600 archeological sites, three of which are on the National Register of Historic Places, as well as ruins of old cabins and the Mount Lowe Railway. Other highlights are:

- The area, which boasts more than 4 million visits, is host to a variety of year-round recreational activities, including hiking, cross-country skiing, hunting, nature viewing, picnicking, water activities and horseback riding and camping.
- Mount Baldy Center adjacent to the monument helps to educate 8,000 students and teachers each year in environmental education and includes a 1920s schoolhouse, reproductions of a gold-mining camp and a Native-American (Tongva-Gabrielino) village.

Information about becoming a San Gabriel Mountains National Monument volunteer or partner is available from the Angeles National Forest.

### Other Forest Service-managed national monuments:

- Admiralty Island National Monument, Tongass National Forest, Alaska
- Misty Fjords National Monument, Tongass National Forest, Alaska
- Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Washington
- Newberry National Volcanic Monument, Deschutes National Forest, Oregon
- Giant Sequoia National Monument, Sequoia National Forest, California
- Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, San Bernardino National Forest, California (co-managed with the Bureau of Land Management)
- Chimney Rock National Monument, San Juan National Forest, Colorado

Sources: U.S. Forest Service; U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Carnegie Institution for Science

## THE END OF THE GROCERY BAG AS WE KNOW IT!

**Governor Edmund Brown on Sept 30<sup>th</sup> signed into law SB270 that bans plastic shopping bags, making California the first U.S. state to officially prohibit stores from handing them out for free.**

**The new law goes into effect for large grocery chains and pharmacies beginning July 1, 2015. It will extend to convenience stores and liquor stores July 1, 2016.**

**Under the law, stores will be required to offer customers recycled paper bags or bags made of compostable material at a cost of at least 10 cents. Consumers buying groceries using California's food-assistance program won't have to pay for bags.**

**The law also provides \$2 million in state-backed loans to help businesses transition to reusable bags.**

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANKS TO THE TEAM LEAD BY BRENDA BECK THE NATURES CANTEEN TRAIL IS NOW OPEN!

Nature's Canteen Trail. It connects with the upper end of the paved road leading down into the main trailhead parking area. This trail traverses west on the slope below the Angeles Crest Highway 0.6 miles to the Clear Creek Information Station.



### THANKS TO THE FRIENDS OF ECHO MOUNTAIN

The October 16<sup>th</sup> Graffiti eradication day is complete! Tagging at the bottom is now gone! If you see anything new, please report it to us. We are "Friends of Echo Mountain" on Facebook! The sooner we erase it, the better.



# Volunteer Fun & Training

GLENDAL PARKS & OPEN SPACE FOUNDATIO  
GLENDAL COMMUNITY SERVICES & PARKS DEPA  
*Present*

GLENDAL PARKS &  
OPEN SPACE  
FOUNDATION



## Glendale Outdoors!

A **FREE** MORNING OF

**OUTDOOR GAMES!**

**NATURE CRAFTS!**

**INTERPRETIVE HIKES!**

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION!**

**DRINKS AND SNACKS!**

*For children ages 8 to 12*

**AT DEUKMEJIAN WILDERNESS PARK**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>**

**9 A.M. TO 12 NOON**

Sign up at either Pacific Community Center or Maple Park Community Center

Bus pick-up: 8:15 a.m. at Pacific Park Community Center

Bus returns: 12:30 p.m. to Pacific Park Community Center

You must wear sturdy shoes, long pants, and bring sunglasses and a hat or cap.

**PARENTS WELCOME !**

**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS  
WILL BE MADE UPON REQUEST.  
PLEASE NOTIFY US WITHIN 72 HRS  
PRIOR TO EVENT DATE.**

Հայերեն տեղեկությունների  
Համար գանգահարել հետևյալ  
հեռախոսահամարով  
(818) 548-2000

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

**P 8 vol. 11 Issue 13**



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.mtlowe.co)**

## Volunteers Needed

# MONUMENT RESTORATION

The Sam Merrill Trail was built by Charles Warner and the Forest Conservation Club of Pasadena during the 1930s. After the deluge of 1938 most of the trails that accessed the mountain sides around Echo Mountain and the Mount Lowe Railway had been all but washed away.

Sam Merrill found it important to maintain public hiking access to the railway ruins and other portions of the treacherous foothill. During the 1940s he overhauled and maintained the trail.

As a young man Merrill had lived with John Muir for a summer, which inspired a lifetime commitment to the outdoors and the Sierra Club. Merrill, who served as Clerk of the Superior Court of Los Angeles, was an active volunteer in the Sierra Club, leading outings for almost twenty years, serving on the Executive Committee of the Angeles Chapter from 1926 to 1935 and on the National Board of Directors of the Sierra Club from 1936 to 1937.

When Sam Merrill died in 1948 the Sierra Club named the Echo Mountain Trail after him. A monument dedicating the Sam Merrill Trail was erected by the Sierra Club in 1949.



The top of the monument was broken off by vandals. Its present condition is displayed here.

**The Top has been found!**

**Volunteers are needed at sunset ridge gate  
at 7:45 AM on November 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Volunteers are needed to help transporting cement  
and water to Echo Mtn and in lifting and  
cementing the top back on**

**A new plaque will be installed next year.**

**GET IN CONTACT BRIAN MARCROFT**

**PHONE: 562-868-8919**

**E-mail: [Emworks@verizon.net](mailto:Emworks@verizon.net)**

# Volunteers Needed



**THE CITY OF GLENDALE**  
Community Services & Parks Department

## **Riverwalk Workday** **(on the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk)**

### ◆ **WHEN:**

**Sat. Nov. 8, 2014**  
**8:00 a.m. - Noon**

### ◆ **WHERE:**

**Glendale Narrows  
Riverwalk**  
**300 Paula Ave.**  
**Glendale, CA 91201**  
(corner of Paula Ave  
& Garden St)

**Questions? Call us  
at (818) 548-3795**

**Everyone must sign  
a waiver prior to  
working. Minors  
must provide a  
waiver signed by a  
parent or guardian.**



**Join our monthly workday as we weed and maintain the landscaped areas along the Los Angeles River in the City of Glendale.**

**Participants are asked to wear sturdy shoes, protective clothing, long pants, hat and sun protection. We will provide the tools, gloves, drinks and snacks, but if possible bring your own work gloves and hand clippers.**



**Families, individuals, groups, clubs and students needing Community Service hours are encouraged to attend.**



**Հայերեն տեղեկությունների համար զանգահարել  
հետևյալ հեռախոսահամարով (818) 548-2000**

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

**Sponsored By:**

**GLENDALE PARKS &  
OPEN SPACE  
FOUNDATION**



# Volunteers Needed



**THE CITY OF GLENDALE**  
Community Services & Parks Department

## **NO Problem NOvember** **(Third Saturday Wilderness Workday)**

◆ **WHEN:**

**Sat. Nov. 15, 2014**  
**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

◆ **WHERE:**

**Deukmejian**  
**Wilderness Park**  
**3429 Markridge Rd**  
**Glendale, Ca 91214**

◆ **WHAT:**

**Snacks and drinks will**  
**be provided**

**Wear sturdy shoes and**  
**protective clothing**

**Bring water, sun screen,**  
**gloves and a hat**

◆ **Want More:**

**Call (818) 548-3795**

**Problem:** Trying to remove all of the non-native invasive plants (weeds) from the park

**NO Problem:** Our team of volunteer "weeders" head out each month in search of the elusive tree tobacco, castor bean, and Spanish broom

**Problem:** Trying to water the 100+ trees that have been planted in the past few years

**NO Problem:** Our volunteers hand water the trees (2 or 3 gallons) each and every month

**Problem:** All the trails in the park were destroyed after the fire and rains

**NO Problem:** Our volunteer trail building team has repaired all of the park trails

**There is not one problem that we cannot solve when we work as a team. Join our volunteers for a morning of weeding, watering and trail maintenance. Together we can turn every Problem into NO Problem!**

Հայերեն տեղեկությունների համար զանգահարել

հետևյալ հեռախոսահամարով (818) 548-2000

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

**Sponsored By:**

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**OPEN SPACE**  
FOUNDATION



## Volunteers Needed

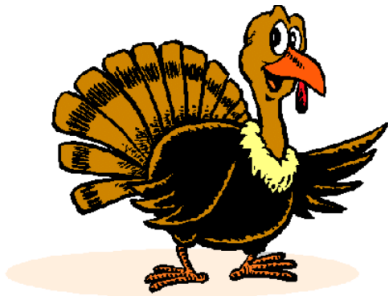
### Gabrielino Trail Help

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.

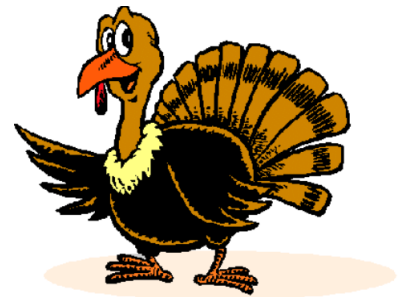
Thanks,  
Dennis Merkel, CPRP, FPO  
District Recreation Officer  
Los Angeles River Ranger District  
Angeles National Forest

Phone: 818 899-1900 Ext 229  
Fax: 818 896-6727 Email: [dcmerkel@fs.fed.us](mailto:dcmerkel@fs.fed.us)

## DON'T FORGET!!!!!!



**Don't Forget !**



**LARRD Volunteer Meeting  
November 19 , 2014  
7:00 p.m.  
701 N Santa Anita Ave.  
Arcadia, CA 91006**

VOLUNTEER FUND RAISER

# Join Our Famous Pancake Breakfast

*Farnsworth Park in Altadena!*

**SUNDAY  
NOV  
16th  
2014**

*Breakfast, Raffle,  
& Rides!*



 **MWBA**   
**MT. WILSON BICYCLING ASSOCIATION**

<http://mwba.org>

[info@mwba.org](mailto:info@mwba.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MWBAorg/>

# Volunteer Fun

## Community Hiking Club Sierra Pelona Rock Club November 2014 Camping Trip



### **AFTON CANYON CAMPGROUND**

November 21-23, 2014

Latitude: 35° 04'27" N Longitude: -116° 30'95" W

Elevation: 1,640 feet

**Introduction:** Afton Canyon Campground is in the Afton Canyon Natural Area, which is located about 37 miles northeast of Barstow along Interstate 15 between the Afton Road and Basin Road exits. Afton Canyon is designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to protect plant and wildlife habitat, and to preserve scenic values of the riparian area within the canyon. Early western explorers passing through this area included Jedediah Smith, Kit Carson and John Charles Fremont. The route following this road, known as the Mojave Road, is a rugged 4-wheel-drive scenic tour running from Fort Mojave on the Colorado River near Needles to Camp Cady near Harvard Road. **However, a 4-wheel drive vehicle is not necessary to get to the campground.**

This camping trip will be a joint trip with the Sierra Pelona Rock Club.

Hikes/Trips: We plan to visit the following areas:

- Cady Mountains area – to sightsee and collect agate, sagenite, calcite crystals, opalite, petrified palm root, chert, chalcedony and jasper (requiring some hiking).
- Rainbow Basin National Natural Landmark – to sightsee and hike.
- Calico Early Man Archeological Site (Open Thursday-Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with guided tours on those days at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. Fees are \$5.00 per adult (\$2.50 per adult after the first two pay \$5.00), \$1.00 per child and \$2.00 for those 62 and older).

**RSVP:** To sign up for this camping trip, contact Dianne by email at [zuliebear@aol.com](mailto:zuliebear@aol.com). Please note that by reserving early with Dianne, and giving her the camp site fees, she will do her utmost to get you a camping site. However, campsites cannot be guaranteed for any of us, due to the first-come-first-served rule enforced at the campground. Unused camp site fees will, of course, be refunded. If you pay in advance and do not show up, your fees will not be refunded. (They will have already been deposited at the campsite check-in on your behalf.)



## VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



**Here lies part of Pacific Crest Trail that needed to be re-benched.  
by Pete Fish**



**Now 1600' of the Pacific Crest Trail crew of Dave, Kevin, Fred, Dean, Ann, and Pete has been re-benched  
by Pete Fish**



**A bulldozer had pushed a log over the West Mount Lowe Trail head. The log was blocking the trail.  
by George Aumann**

**Now thanks to JPL Trailbuilders the log was moved out of the way and the trailhead restored!  
by George Aumann**



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

- The 28<sup>th</sup> 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 Keepers**Mark Gage [mrgy33@hotmail.com](mailto: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.rmccuire@hotmail.com](mailto:m.rmccuire@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](mailto: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](mailto: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.org](http://www.avconservancy.org)[avconservancy@yahoo.com](mailto:avconservancy@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](http://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](mailto:johnrhowell@earthlink.net)

Face book: Arroyos &amp; Foothills Conservancy

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

## BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

Andy Hoyer [abhoyer@yahoo.com](mailto:abhoyer@yahoo.com)

213-675-0420

### • Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> Outing

Hello everyone,

We are getting back on the trail this month and for this season we will always plan to work on the fourth Saturday of every month. For November 22nd we intend to try and start from the far end of the trail again with the goal of making it possible to get from the Mt Lowe Fire Road to the Bear Canyon Trail Camp without any bushwhacking. This will be the weekend before Thanksgiving so come out and work hard so you can eat more turkey!

I will be sending out more info after I've explored whether the Fire Road is passable or not. To get on the Bear Canyon email list follow this link: [http://eepurl.com/ID\\_Rr](http://eepurl.com/ID_Rr)

Have a Happy Halloween and we'll see you on the mountain!

Andy Hoyer

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### Blight Busters Trail Crew

Danny Treadway [dayhiker86@yahoo.com](mailto:dayhiker86@yahoo.com)

### Boy Scouts of America Los Angeles Area Council

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

### Big Santa Anita Canyon

<http://www.bigsantaaniticanyon.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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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>

## CITY OF GLENDALE

Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept

818-548-2000

<http://www.glendaleparksfoundation.org>

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### NOtes for NOvember: Please take NOtice of our scheduled events for NOvember

- **NOV 1<sup>st</sup> Go** (see page 8)

Saturday, NOVember 1<sup>st</sup> is the GO! Program (Glendale Outdoors) for children 8 - 12 years old (and their parents) at Deukmejian Wilderness Park. This will be a morning of Outdoor Play, Crafts, an Interpretive Hike and more. The attached flyer and registration packet have additional information. When you tell your children about this event and the fun they will have outdoors... you won't hear NO, they will say let's GO! **You must register for this program by calling (818) 548-3795.**

- **NOV 8<sup>th</sup> Glendale Narrows Riverwalk.** (see page 10)

2. Riverwalk Workday on Saturday, NOVember 8<sup>th</sup> at Glendale Narrows Riverwalk. This will be our last workday visit to the river this year. How can you say NO to helping with weed removal in the landscaped areas along the trail? Please review the flyer for more details.

- **NOV 15<sup>th</sup> Third Saturday Wilderness Workday** (see page 11)

3. On Saturday, NOVember 15<sup>th</sup> we are at Deukmejian Wilderness Park for our Third Saturday Wilderness Workday ("NO Problem NOVember"). We need all our volunteers to join us for tree watering, weeding, trail maintenance and tree planting. Yes, we have some new Big Cone Fir trees that need a good home in the park. We have faced many problems in the past five years as the park recovers from the Station Fire, but our attitude still remains NO Problem! Check out the flyer for things you need to know.

### Your Friends in Trails and Open Space

**Community Hiking Club** [communityhikingclub.org](http://communityhikingclub.org)

661-259-2743

**Dianne Erskine Hellrigel** email: [zuliebear@aol.com](mailto:zuliebear@aol.com)

- **Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Weldon to East Canyon or add Mission Peak RT for extra distance**

**This is a 6 mile or a 9 mile hike, depending upon the option you select, with about 1500' gain!**

**Shorter Hike route** - Approx. 6 miles and ~1500' gain : Up Weldon Canyon, Down East Canyon.

**Longer Hike route:** Approx. 9 miles and ~1500 +' gain: **Up Weldon Canyon to the top of East Canyon** where we will say adios to the hikers on the shorter route, as they go down East Cyn. We will climb up to the top of East Canyon where it meets the top of O'Melveny Canyon. We hike across the top through beautiful oak woodlands over to Mission Peak. We will have lunch here and then return to the top of East Canyon and our vehicles via East Canyon.

**Meet your leader:** At the base of East Canyon at 7:30 AM for a 7:40 AM SHARP departure. Park on the Old Road, see detailed directions below. We will leave most of the cars at this location, and carpool to the Weldon Canyon Trail head, just up the road. People who opt for the shorter 6 mile hike should leave their cars at East Canyon. Note: Some of you will have to act as Carpoolers, taking the people who kindly drove you the short distance to Weldon Canyon, back to their cars. (THANK YOU in advance).

**Directions to East Canyon meeting spot:** Exit the I-5 freeway at Calgrove. Turn west. Follow Calgrove around a curve and through a signal. You will now be on The Old Road. Pass Towsley Cyn. Pass the Post office. Pass the Church of the Nazarene. Immediately after passing the Church of the Nazarene, park along the side of the road, on the right. This is where we will meet.

**Bring:** Lots of water, snack/lunch, poles if you have them, a camera if you have one. Good shoes with tread, extra layers as it can be windy on this trail.

**Rated:** Moderate/ Strenuous, depending on the distance chosen

**Adventure Pass:** Not required

**Dogs:** Ok, if on a leash and well behaved

**Leader:** Steve

(continue to p 19)

• Nov 8<sup>th</sup> -Dagger Flat Trail Work

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 meet PROMPTLY at 6:30 AM, and leave no later than 6:40 AM. We carpool in 4 miles on 3N17 to the trail head due to lack of parking on site. PLEASE BE PROMPT as we must relock the gate.

**Quitting Time:** 1:00-2:30 PM (depending upon the group and weather)

**Bring:** Water, snacks, lunch, 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

**Rated:** Moderate

• Nov 8<sup>th</sup> -Slide Mountain

Today we are hiking to the top of Slide Mountain. This is an out and back 12 miles round trip on a steep trail. We will hike to the fire lookout on the top of the mountain. There are incredible views of Lake Pyramid and Lake Piru. You will also have a 360 degree view of just about every major peak around the LA area from the top. This is a tough hike that is not for beginners. There should be a lot of great photo opportunities so bring your camera. Steve will also point out Piru Creek, which is a Native California Fishery.

**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.

**Carpooling from Santa Clarita:** We will meet at the outside gate of Towsley Canyon at 7:00AM for a 7:15AM SHARP departure to the trail head (see below). We will be carpooling to the trailhead above Castaic on I-5, about 25 minutes away. Please be respectful of your driver's support by contributing something at the end of your carpool to help defray the cost of gas.

**Meeting at the Trail head:** Directions - Go north on I-5, pass Castaic and exit at Templin Hwy, turn left. Go under the freeway, and turn right. Follow this road until it ends at a white forest service gate. Park. Display your Adventure Pass in your windshield. Meet us at the gate at ~7:45AM, we will leave at 8:00AM SHARP.

**Adventure Pass:** Required for parking in the Angeles National Forest.

**Dogs:** OK, if on leash and well behaved (bear the distance in mind)

**RATED:** Difficult (for distance and at least 2000 ft gain)

**Leader:** Steve

**• Nov 15<sup>th</sup> -Dagger Flat Trail Work**

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 7:00AM, and leave no later than 7:10AM. We carpool in 4 miles on 3N17 to the trail head due to lack of parking on site. PLEASE BE PROMPT as we must relock the gate.

**Quitting Time:** 12:00-12:30PM

**Bring:** Water, snacks, lunch, camera, bandaids, 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

**• Nov 15<sup>th</sup> - Devil's Punchbowl to Devil's Chair**

This 7 mile round trip, out and back, hike includes some altitude and a mild climb in the first mile. It is one of the most scenic hikes in our area. The Devil's Punch Bowl itself is a gorgeous site with the protruding rocks and sheer rock faces. The trail is fairly flat with great views up the mountains behind and out over the desert. We will head around the Devil's Punchbowl and out to the Devil's Chair (see photo below).

**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.

**Carpooling from Santa Clarita:** Meet at Towsley Canyon at 7:45 AM for an 8:00AM sharp departure to the trail head. We will caravan out to the trail head (directions below). 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 at the Trail head:** Meet your leader between 9:00 AM and 9:15 AM in the parking lot near the porta potty. The address of Devil's Punch Bowl is: 28000 Devil's Punchbowl Rd., Pearblossom CA 93553

**Directions to Trail head:** Take the SR-14 North to the Angeles Forest Hwy exit, Exit 30, and go towards Pear Blossom Highway, keeping on left of the ramp toward Pearblossom Hwy/Littlerock/Victorville. Merge onto Sierra Hwy. Stay straight to go onto Pearblossom Hwy. At the light, turn right onto Pearblossom Hwy/CA-138. Turn right onto 87th St E. Take the 2nd left onto Fort Tejon Rd. Turn right onto Longview Rd. Turn left onto Tumbleweed Rd. Turn slight right onto Devil's Punchbowl Road. 28000 Devil's PunchBowl Road is at the end of the road. Park.

**Adventure Pass:** Not required. **Dogs:** OK, if on leash and well behaved.

**Rated:** Moderate (plus some altitude) **Leader:** Lise

**• Nov 16<sup>th</sup> -Condor Micro-Trash Clean Up**

**Today we'll be working with a group of students from Moorpark, picking up micro-trash to help the condor population up at Bear Divide. We'll start at the Bear Divide Picnic Area and work our way up Bear Divide to Contractor's Point.**

**Meet:** At 8:00 AM at the Bear Divide Picnic Area. We will work until 11:00 AM or 12:00 PM.

**Bring:** Water a snacks. Also a Big Gulp size plastic cup or similar tupper-ware type bowl/container, latex gloves, wipes, stool or towel to sit on, and a trash bag for larger items.

**Wear:** Loose clothing and comfortable shoes. Boots are not necessary. If it is a cool day, keep in mind that it is usually windier and colder up on Bear Divide.

**Directions to Bear Divide Picnic Area:** Take the I-5 Freeway to the SR-14 Freeway. Exit Sand Canyon, turn right. Go past all the houses on Sand Canyon and enter the Angeles National Forest. Go up up up the hill. You will pass a memorial on the right side, and you will pass Santa Clara Road on the left. Shortly after this will be a road on the right without a street sign.

Turn right. Immediately on your right you will see Bear Divide Picnic Area.

Park. This is where we will meet.

**Leader:** Dianne

**• Nov 16<sup>th</sup> - Mountain Lion Nature Series Presentation**

**The mountain lion (also known as cougar, puma, panther and catamount) is a specially protected mammal in California. Come learn about basic mountain lion biology, behavior, common myths, misconceptions, general safety tips for the public and first responders.**

Robin Park's consideration for law enforcement officers and animal control officers is a passion of his. As first responders to cougar incidents, his and the Mountain Lion Foundation's ultimate goal is to see everyone goes home, including the mountain lion.

Robin Parks is a San Diego resident. He retired from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) in 2004 after a 25-year career in federal law enforcement. A lifelong admirer of the great cats, he began doing volunteer work at animal sanctuaries in 1999. That is when he first encountered captive mountain lions. This later led him to the Mountain Lion Foundation (MLF) where he has been a field volunteer on several projects.

**Meet Us:** In the classroom in Placerita Nature Center for this special event. It is free and will be great fun for the entire family!

**Location:** Placerita Canyon Nature Center, 19152 Placerita Canyon Road, Newhall, CA 91321.

**Phone:** (661) 259-7721

(continue to p 22)

• Nov 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Weekend CAMPING TRIP - Community Hiking Club/ Sierra Pelona Rock Club - Afton Canyon

**Latitude: 35° 04'27" N Longitude: -116° 30'95" W Elevation: 1,640 feet**

**This will be a joint camping trip with the Sierra Pelona Rock Club.**

**Introduction:** Afton Canyon Campground is in the Afton Canyon Natural Area, located about 37 miles northeast of Barstow along Interstate 15 between the Afton Road and Basin Road exits. Afton Canyon is designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to protect plant and wildlife habitat, and to preserve scenic values of the riparian area within the canyon. Early western explorers passing through this area included Jedediah Smith, Kit Carson and John Charles Fremont. The route following this road, known as the Mojave Road, is a rugged 4-wheel-drive scenic tour running from Fort Mojave on the Colorado River near Needles to Camp Cady near Harvard Road. However, a 4-wheel drive vehicle is not necessary to get to the campground.

**Directions to Campground:** From Santa Clarita, take the 14 Freeway north about 25 miles to Exit 30 for Angeles National Highway, Pearblossom Highway. Almost immediately after exiting, there will be a fork in the road. Stay to the left. Continue on Pearblossom Highway for about 6 miles. When you get to Four Points, make a right at the light (direction Highway 138). Continue on 138 for about 18 miles, passing through Littlerock and Pearblossom. You will then reach another fork in the road, where you will need to turn left onto Highway 18 (direction Victorville). Travel another 24 miles or so on Highway 18, until you reach I-15 in Victorville. When you reach I-15 in Victorville, take the ramp to I-15 North (located on your right after you cross over I-15). Travel north on I-15 for about 25 miles, when you will reach the Barstow city limits. Continue on I-15 for about 46 more miles. Take exit 221, Afton Road, and turn right onto Afton Road (a dirt/gravel road). Please note that Afton Road is graded fairly frequently. However, caution is always recommended, especially after any significant rainfall.

**Shortly before reaching the campground, you will see another dirt road that forks off to the right. Do NOT turn right at this sign; stay to the left. You will travel on Afton Road (by staying to the left) for about 3.5 miles, until you reach the campground (also on your left).**

**Description:** This campground consists of 22 sites. There are no RV hook-ups. Each campsite has a table; some of the campsites also have a shade veranda over the table. Most campsites have fire rings and some have barbecue grills. Two pit toilets are located in the center of the campground. Water is brought in by truck for one spigot at the front of the campground, but the water quality is unknown. It would be best to bring your own water for the time you will be camping. The BLM requests that you pack out all of your trash, but there are trashcans available throughout the campground. If you realize that you have forgotten to bring something after arriving **at the campground, there is a small store located on I-15, at the intersection with Afton Road (about 3.5 miles away from the campground). They have ice, charcoal, and a few other necessities for sale.**

**Fees and Rules:** Campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Up to two vehicles or 10 individuals are allowed to occupy each campsite. The fee for camping is \$6.00 per night. Holders of Golden Age/Golden Access Passports only have to pay \$3.00 per night. Quiet hours are 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Camping and campfires are only permitted in the fire rings provided, or in fire pits, within the designated campground. Dogs are allowed, as long as they remain on a leash at all times. Check out time is 2:00 p.m.

**Removal of plants, rocks, fossils, artifacts, or animals from the Afton Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) is prohibited.**

**Vehicles are restricted to posted open routes. Within this ACEC, routes are posted with "OPEN ROUTE" markers. Routes have been selected to allow access to the area and to the Mojave Road while preserving riparian (stream-side) environments.**

(continue to p 23)



**BROWN markers with route numbers indicate an OPEN ROUTE for use by motorized vehicles; No marker indicates a CLOSED route; Within the Afton Canyon area, travel is restricted to designated OPEN ROUTES.**

**Weather:** The average temperatures this time of year are highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 40s

**Hikes/Trips: We plan to visit the following areas:**

- Cady Mountains area – to sightsee and collect agate, sagenite, calcite crystals, opalite, petrified palm root, chert, chalcedony and jasper (requiring some hiking).
- Rainbow Basin National Natural Landmark – to sightsee and hike.
- Calico Early Man Archeological Site - (Open Thursday-Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with guided tours on those days at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m. Fees are \$5.00 per adult (\$2.50 per adult after the first two pay \$5.00), \$1.00 per child and \$2.00 for those 62 and older).

**RSVP: To sign up for this camping trip, contact Dianne by email at [zuliebear@aol.com](mailto:zuliebear@aol.com). Please note that by reserving early with Dianne, and giving her the camp site fees, she will do her utmost to get you a camping site. However, campsites cannot be guaranteed for any of us, due to the first-come-first-served rule enforced at the campground. Unused camp site fees will, of course, be refunded. If you pay in advance and do not show up, your fees will not be refunded. (They will have already been deposited at the campsite check-in on your behalf.)**

• Nov 29<sup>th</sup> -Figure 8 Elsmere Canyon

• Nov 29<sup>th</sup> - Elsmere Canyon, New Elsmere, the Waterfall, and Beale's Cut

Today we'll try to burn off some of that great Thanksgiving dinner. We'll begin our trek in old Elsmere, heading out from the Park and Ride. We'll criss cross the center of the canyon twice, and make a brief visit at Beale's Cut. We'll put on about 8.5 miles with lots of ups and down. If we have the energy left on the way back, we can add another mile to our trip and visit the Elsmere Canyon Waterfall.

**This is a new way to do Elsmere Canyon.** You will see the entire Canyon, the new Elsmere purchase, Beale's Cut, and the new waterfall trail. (There will not be any water in the waterfall unless we've had rain) Elsmere is usually rated easy, but this particular route has some added hills, and is much longer. Plan accordingly!

**Directions:** From Valencia, take the I-5 south to the SR-14 North. Exit the first exit, which is Newhall Avenue. The exit splits left and right. Take the right exit. When you get to the stop sign, turn right. That will take you to the Park and Ride. Park here. Parking is free. Get there early because this area is used sometimes by the high schools for their running teams, and they can take all the parking. If this happens, there is a MRCA parking lot, but the fee to park is \$5.00, so be prepared for that. (Tickets are expensive).

**Meet:** At the Park and Ride at the end of Newhall Avenue, just east of the SR-14 freeway at 8:00AM for an 8:15 AM SHARP departure. Please be prompt. We leave the trail head on time.

**Bring:** A minimum of 2 liters water, preferably 3, lunch, snacks, poles if you have them, hat and Sunscreen and wear good boots with lots of tread.

**Adventure Pass:** No

**Dogs:** OK, if on a leash and well behaved.

**Rating:** Moderate ++, (total mileage is ~ 10, miles, with gain of ~1,000 ft.)

**Leader:** Dianne

## HABITAT WORKS

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

<http://www.habitatwork.org>

Kim Clark or Tom Persons 818-353-4653

For more information call or e-mail to: [wildlife@habitatwork.org](mailto:wildlife@habitatwork.org)

## Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center

[www.haramokngna.org](http://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](mailto: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

e-mail: [pjgwfooster@aol.com](mailto:pjgwfooster@aol.com)

• Certified Packer

## JPL TRAILBUILDERS

Kathie Reilly 626-379-8429 (cell)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

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

• Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Outing

### WHAT'S HAPPENING:

We finished the San Gabriel Peak Trail from the saddle to the summit. We will be back on the Mount Lowe West Trail, doing the same kind of maintenance.

## SPECIAL BIRD FEEDER



## Mount Wilson Bicycling Association

<http://mwba.org/>

@on Facebook

Contact: Mitch Marich, [info@mwba.org](mailto:info@mwba.org)

- **Save the date!! NOV. 16<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser See p 10**

On Sunday, November 16, 2014 we will hold our famed Pancake Breakfast and Raffle at Charles Farnsworth Park in Altadena. Many donors have already sent in great raffle prizes and this promises to be a great event. Farnsworth Park is near the top of Lake Ave and central for many great rides in the area.

\* Pancakes will start flipping at 8 am! Only \$6 for breakfast and a raffle ticket!

\* The park is easily accessible so bring the entire family!

\* Rip out a Dawn Patrol ride in the San Gabriels and join us for breakfast!

\* Or head out for a great ride after filling up with pancake fuel!

- **Nov 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:info@mwba.org) for information on a particular month. So Regular!

## Mount Wilson Institute

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

(404) 413-5484

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

- **Mount Wilson Observatory's Cosmic Cafe** offers a variety of fresh-made sandwiches and other treats and souvenirs to visitors to the Observatory. The Cafe is located in the Pavilion overlooking the large parking lot at the entrance to the Observatory. Open every Saturday and Sunday of the month until Nov 30<sup>th</sup>

### 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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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 1<sup>st</sup> - Dec 30<sup>th</sup>. '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](mailto:pickaxepete@sbcglobal.net), Tel.: 805-658-6540  
or: John Hachey Email: [goaliejhachey@msn.com](mailto:goaliejhachey@msn.com), Tel.: 909-605-3219

## SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org>

Ben White: 626-303-1078

[ben@sgmtrailbuilders.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Emworks@verizon.net)

- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Sam Merril monument restoration see page 11

## Sierra Club [www.angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena/](http://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>

- Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Monthly meeting: Time: 7:00 PM Doors Open 7:15 Meeting

Leader: Liz Pomeroy - 626-791-7660 [ewpomeroy@gmail.com](mailto:ewpomeroy@gmail.com)

Location: Eaton Canyon Nature Center

1750 North Altadena Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107, USA

**Pasadena Monthly Meeting: "Black bears in our foothills: their habits and how we can learn to live with them"**, presented by Kim Bosell, Natural Areas Administrator of the LA County Department of Parks and Recreation. Information on Group's hikes, outings, and conservation activities. Newcomers always welcome. Kim has done extensive research on the interface between black bears and humans living in the foothills, and will present findings from this research.

- Nov 6<sup>th</sup> Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Red Box to Valley Forge Camp
- Nov 13<sup>th</sup> Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Arroyo Seco to Paul Little Picnic Area and Brown Mountain Dam
- Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Nov 27<sup>th</sup> NO Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike (Due to Thanksgiving)
- Nov 28<sup>th</sup> Benefit Shopping at Ten Thousand Villages

## **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MOUNTAINS FOUNDATION**

<http://mountainsfoundation.org/> Sarah Miggins [smiggins@fs.fed.us](mailto: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=11>

- Story Time Nov 8<sup>th</sup>

## **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/2014-11>

- Campus Tree Care Nov 1<sup>st</sup>
- Drought Response Park Tree Care Nov 1<sup>st</sup>
- Park Work Day Nov 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>
- Santa Monica Mountains Restoration Nov 1<sup>st</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>
- Street Tree Care Nov 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>

## **Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest**

<http://www.grassyhollow.net>

Wrightwood, CA

Visitor Center Phone #: (626) 821-6737

Loren Lake [lorenll@verizon.net](mailto: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

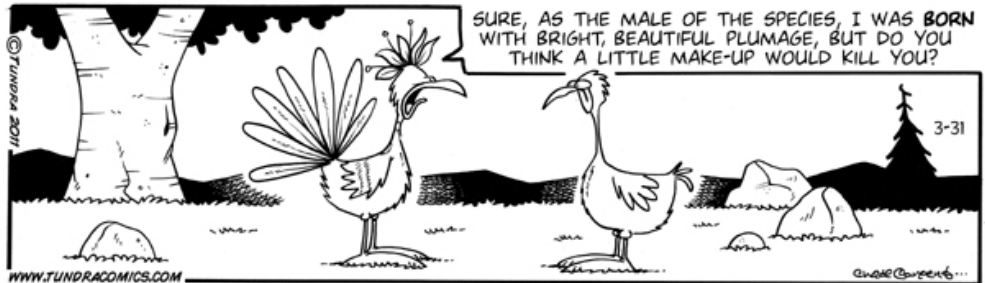
661.877.7024 661.250.0022 X 552

[www.hartrop.com/forestry](http://www.hartrop.com/forestry) [www.facebook.com/ropforestry](http://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 Mar 21, 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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_