

VOLUNTEER TODAY

Dedicate Yourself to Caring for the Land and Serving the People
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/angeles/volunteering/>

Los Angeles River Ranger District Volunteer Newsletter JAN 2005 Vol. 3 Issue 1

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

At our last volunteer meeting, we experienced a full house of enthusiastic volunteers which reflected the 11.5 years of contributed volunteer hours accumulated from October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004 and worth approximately \$360,000 for the Los Angeles River Ranger District. These contributed hours accomplished trail maintenance, rehabilitation of campsites and picnic areas, public service etc. All of you should be proud of this achievement.

At this meeting, we had an informative presentation on the Wildland Firefighting Explorer Program, this program is composed of young adults from age of 16 – 21, who are interested in working on your projects. They can provide 1 – 40 individuals and come fully self-sufficient for either a one or two day project. Starting January 15, they will be working on the Lower Merrill trail. If you're interested in utilizing this group, please develop a project description and send it to me at least a month ahead of your scheduled event.

Linda Winkler is assisting us this winter, she'll be working on trail surveys, trail maintenance and other projects. She works Wednesday – Saturday, so hopefully you'll see her on one of your projects.

If you need any assistance in accomplishing your Program of Work, please let me know and I'll work with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) in recruiting additional volunteers for your project. SCA enrollees spent a week in the Chantry Flat area, conducting trail maintenance work on Upper Winter Creek and Lower Winter Creek trail. They're also working on recruiting volunteers for specific projects.

If you've contributed 100 hrs of volunteer service from October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004, please notify Julie Smith at 818-899-1900 ext 237 for your free Adventure Pass.

The volunteer program is open to all individuals and/or groups that are interested in assisting the Angeles NF in accomplishing natural resource management objectives. If you're interested in assisting us in managing your National Forest or have questions about the Volunteer Program, please contact me at 818-899-1900 ext 229 or e-mail hokamoto@fs.fed.us
Again THANK YOU for your dedication to Caring for the Land and Serving the People.

/s/ Howard S. Okamoto
Angeles National Forest
Los Angeles River Ranger District
Recreation Officer



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If you would like to join the join volunteers shown on page 6 Please fill out volunteer form and send to Howard!

JANUARY CALENDAR

1. JAN 19th 7:00 PM
VOLUNTEER GROUP MEETING
Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the Wildwood Volunteer House.

2. JAN 19th 5:00 PM
California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC) meeting www.ctuc.info
3550 Foothill Blvd, Glendale

3. Jan 22nd and Jan 23rd
chainsaw training class is scheduled at Clear Creek Ranger Station

4. January 29th
Take a walk and learn more about the Angeles Forest. Meet at the San Gabriel Canyon Environmental Education Center on Highway 39. Donation is \$5.00 per person. No Adventure Pass needed. You must RSVP with Steve Segreto at 626-335-1251, ext. 225 or 909-982-2829. This tour is limited to 35 people.

5. January 29th
No Adventure pass needed in Angeles Forest.

Take Pride in America

This program is based on the idea that there are thousands of people who would like to help out and volunteer but need direction, counsel and instruction on how to proceed.

Some of the projects planned include: trail maintenance, cleaning up trash and litter, painting and restoring signs, weed removal, wildlife habitat restoration, safety patrol, erosion control, and shoreline clean up.

For more information, the Web address is www.takepride.info – home of volunteers on line.

Please send news or corrections to guykuhn@earthlink.net or bring them to the Wildwood Volunteer House meeting. Send your E-mail address if you want an E-mail newsletter.

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Send news to
GUYKUHN@EARTHLINK.NET

ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL mmcguirepoolspace@cs.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.



The Mcguires complete 1000 hours of volunteer service!

Next outing will be January 29th
(last Saturday of the month)

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

George & Pam Morey 909-338-3923

Applicants from the community willing to volunteer as a Fire Lookout for the 2005 fire season can apply for training with ANFFLA.

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC)

To provide a forum for all trail users to discuss trail related issues, problems and alternative solutions; to assist in the planning, development, maintenance and patrolling of trails to enforce rules of the road; and to develop and maintain programs designed to educate users on proper use of trails and trail etiquette.

Looking for interested hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians to be a part of this Coalition. If interested come to our next meeting or check out www.ctuc.info

Join One Today

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Monrovia Canyon Park

http://www.ci.monrovia.ca.us/city_hall/public_works/canyon_park/canyon_park.htm

Need volunteers and trail maintenance work on Ben Overturff and Waterfall Trails
626-256-8282

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association

(CORBA) <http://www.corbamtb.com>

January 8 San Juan Trail

Valley Forge, November 2004

REI, Sierra Club and CORBA

What a FANTASTIC day it turned out to be !!

Drizzle and cold were waiting in the early morning, but things turned out pretty nice in the end.

About 20 volunteers descended the VF, working on rolling dips and slough removal - and even wrestled a dead log off the trail.



JPL TRAILBUILDERS

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)
626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

<http://www.jplreclubs.caltech.edu/hiking/>

Next outing:
January 8 & January 29

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

We will finish maintenance of the Mt Lowe West Trail, and probably do our annual maintenance of the Muir Peak Trail if the Mt Lowe fire road is clear. Otherwise we will find some trails that need repair from the rains.

HATHAWAY SCHOOL

Hathaway School will sponsor a "Students Run LA" marathon training team in preparation for March 2005.

If interested in helping out with this event.

Contact Kevin Sarkissian at

ksarkissian@hathawaychildren.org

Pacific Crest Trail Association

(PCTA) <http://www.pcta.org>

Need volunteer individuals or groups to work on PCT segment, Upper Shake Campground to Atmore Meadow. Contact Howard Okamoto if interested.

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

On July 4, 1893 was the opening day of Mt. Lowe Railroad. Los Angeles Times reported the grand opening on page 8 in the July 5, 1893 edition.

To learn what has happened to the railroad go to <http://www.mtlowe.net>

To help in preserving the historical railroad contact:

John Harrigan

626-968-5092

jnharrigan@earthlink.net

Brian Marcroft

562-868-8919

emworks@pacbell.net

Annual Trip to the Alpine Tavern Campgrounds (Crystal Springs)



VOLUNTEER GROUP/EVENT NEWS

SIERRA MADRE AREA SINGLES

(SMAS) <http://www.outdoorsclub.org/>

I'd love to see some new faces out there in Bear Canyon this coming New year!

Next outing January 8

Hike to Henninger Flats
January 12th & January 26th

New Year's Day Mt. Echo
Hike & Breakfast

Richard Nyerges (626) 285-0962
EMAIL: nyerges@spcglobal.net

SYLMAR HANG GLIDING ASSOCIATION

Kagel Road, 3N32 litter clean up.

When: January 8, 2005

Time: 0830 – 1200

Join in a half day event in removing litter from this dispersed recreation area.

Afterwards stay and watch Hang Glider soar over Kagel Mountain.

Santa Clara Divide Road #3N17, micro trash clean up

When January 29, 2005

Time: 0830 - ?

Meeting place: Bear Divide Picnic Area

Cooperator: Ventura County Council Boy Scouts of America

Micro trash consists of small trash items that condors take back to the nest.

Typical micro-trash items may include: glass fragments, soda can pop tops, water bottle caps, plastic trash, paper clips, metal fragments, staples, nails, springs and small pieces of wire.

Thank You Notes:

The Volunteer's Paycheck

To quickly make a great impression, write a thank you note. Thank you are two of the rarest words volunteers hear and among the two words they want to hear most. That's because a thank you tells someone that their work was appreciated and that they made a difference to the organization. Thank you is the only "pay" volunteers receive for their efforts.

But how often do we let an implied thank you do the job of a formal one? Unfortunately, volunteers are not mind readers; they don't always know when we appreciate their work. Without a formal thank you, many volunteers feel their work is unappreciated and unnoticed.

The leaders who is responsible for the task should feel obligated to write a thank you note. For example, the newsletter editor should feel obligated to write a thank you note to each person who contributes an article to the newsletter. But others can also send thank you notes. For example, group leaders should write thank you notes to speakers in addition to the thank you note written by the program organizer. Volunteers appreciate all the thank you notes they receive: the more the merrier.

The Natural Trails and Waters Coalition works to protect and restore all public lands and waters from the damage caused by dirt bikes, jet skis and all other off-road vehicles. Our website is designed to be a resource for the media, activists, and others wanting to know more about the impacts of off-road vehicles on natural resources, wildlife, and public health and safety.

<http://naturaltrails.org/>

US Forest Service Wildland Firefighting

The US Forest Service is currently recruiting young men and women interested in joining the Angeles National Forest Explorer Post 99 and Wildland Fire Academy.

In 1995 the Boy Scouts of America established an Explorer Post on the Angeles National Forest. The Explorer Post is a year round program with meetings held on Wednesday evenings, every other week. Explorers ages range from 16-21 years old for both boys and girls.

The Wildland Firefighting Explorer Post focuses on techniques used in firefighting, investigation, fire science, fire engine operations, hand crews, mop-up and prevention. For more information, please contact Explorer Advisor Travis Kunkle or Oscar Vargas at (818)899-4516.

Southern California Volunteer Program

This program is helping the Forest Service be more effective with volunteers on the National Forest by increasing the infrastructure and capacity for planning projects and recruiting and managing volunteers, supporting existing volunteer groups, and providing support to Forest Service employees as they change their day-to-day activities to involve more volunteers.

Student Conservation Association (SCA)

The SCA is playing a unique role in Southern California. This organization, which provides young people with opportunities to engage in service to the land, is providing a team of interns from July 2004 – July 2005 to help recruit, manage, and lead community volunteers. They are concentrating on developing projects for four focus areas: fire, recreation, botany and wildlife. They are recruiting volunteers by contacting youth groups, corporations, community groups, recreation user groups and conservation groups.

Angeles National Forest Trivia

The speed of light was measured with accuracy for the first time in 1926, in the Angeles National Forest, between 2 mirror stations set up on Mt Wilson and Lookout Mtn, near Mt Baldy. There was an error of just 30 miles per second from the current speed of light calculation of 186, 282 miles per second.

Deborah Kure

What happened in Angeles Forest 01/01/04 to 12/14/2004	
Emergency Standby.....	2
Hazmat.....	21
Law Enforcement.....	1255
Medical Aid.....	279
Miscellaneous.....	2298
Prescribed Fire.....	36
Public Assist.....	317
Resource Order.....	151
Search & Rescue.....	80
Smoke Check.....	54
Structure Fire.....	18
Traffic Collision.....	630
Vegetation Fire.....	235
Vehicle Fire.....	147

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



**Volunteer Today
Send this in Right Away to
Howard S. Okamoto—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/ Fire Prevention/ Recreation Aid /

Forest Patrol /Resource Management / Computers/ Research-Librarian /

Office Clerical / Tour guide/ Fire Lookout/ Conservation Education

Other: _____
