



# 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 NOV/DEC 2006 Vol. 4 Issue 10

## GREETINGS

### VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

Daylight Savings has arrived, remember to set your inner clock back one hour. There are many events scheduled during the next 2 months (November and December), as witnessed by the tragic events related to the Esparanza Fire, be careful during wind events if near a fire.

Dale Bosworth, Chief of the USDA Forest Service, told the Recreation Exchange that his agency is making progress in its effort to reposition itself for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, including a much higher role for recreation - in spite of budgetary constraints caused by the war on terror and unprecedented wildfire activity

Chief Bosworth discussed a series of regional and national forums will bring focus on two specific areas challenging the Forest Service: access and relevance of national forests and grasslands to all Americans, especially youth and urban populations.

Key to access issues are:

- ! the condition, maintenance and funding of road and trail systems;
- ! the loss of open space caused the subdivision and development of private land which leaves large tracts of public land inaccessible;
- ! adopting modern technology for dissemination of visitor information and interpretation; and
- ! developing equitable approaches to access for competing interests that recognize the common interest over the special interest.

Key to relevance issues are:

- ! helping Americans develop a connection to national forests and grasslands so that they care about forest health; and
- ! incorporating new technologies to involve youth including digital photography, GPS adventures, webcasts, podcasts and downloadable interpretive materials.

We're experiencing unusual weather patterns, one week its cold with some moisture and the next its warm and windy, so as you enjoy your Forest outings or events, be prepared so that you can enjoy the upcoming Holiday Season with friends and relatives.

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](mailto:hokamoto@fs.fed.us)

Again, THANK YOU for your dedication in providing a quality recreation experience on the Angeles National Forest. Have a wonderful holiday season and I hope to see you next year.

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

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**Volunteers are needed to fix this trail on page 10. Fill the form!**

**Push will get a person almost everywhere- except through a door marked "pull."**

## Los Angeles River Ranger District Volunteer Events Calendar November 06

Sun	Mon	TUE	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 <u>Mt Zion Outing</u> <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <u>Basic Law Enforcment</u>
5 <u>Mt Zion Outing</u>	6	7 ACTRWG Steering meeting	8	9	10	11 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> OBA HIKE <u>PATROL HIKE</u> <u>ACTRWG Hike</u>
12	13	14	15 Volunteer meeting Wildwood House.	16	17	18 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <u>Jpl Trailbuilders</u> <u>HABITAT WORKS outing</u>
19 <u>HABITAT WORKS outing</u>	20	21 ACTRWG Workshop	22	23	24	25 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u>  Angeles Mountain Bike Outing <u>ACTRWG Trailwork</u>
26	27	28	29	30		

## Los Angeles River Ranger District Volunteer Events Calendar December 06

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 <b>Bear Canyon trail Hike</b> <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <a href="#">HABITAT WORKS outing</a> <b>Mt. Lowe Anniversary</b>
3 <a href="#">HABITAT WORKS outing</a>	4	5 ACTRWG meeting	6	7	8	9 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <b>Jpl Trailbuilders</b> <u>PATROL HIKE</u> <b>ACTRWG Hike</b> <b>OBA HIKE</b>
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <b>Bear Canyon trail outing</b>
17	18	19 ACTRWG Workshop	20	21	22	23  <b>ACTRWG Trailwork</b>
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 <u>Jpl Trailbuilders Outing</u> <a href="#">Angeles Mountain Bike outing</a>
31						

If you wish to get electronic copy of this newsletter, then go to <http://www.mtlowe.net/VolunteerNews.htm>

### *Angeles National Forest Trivia*

What is that growing there?

Have you seen these?

These are the emerging red-colored shoots of a snow plant, *Sarcodes sanguinea* (Family Ericaceae). The brightly pigmented shoot totally lacks chlorophyll, and perhaps the dark color, rather than white, enables the plant to absorb more solar radiation as it grows through snow during the cool spring months. The red color is due to large amounts of anthocyanins in the plant. The presence of anthocyanins is what gives the red color to tree leaves during the fall

Snow plants are mycotrophic or fungus flowers. These non-photosynthetic plants get their food from nearby forest trees using the skills of a intermediary, a mycorrhizal fungus. The mycorrhizal fungi form a symbiotic relationship with the snow plant in which the plants supply the fungi with carbohydrates in return for the use of their fungal extensions (hyphae) which reach throughout the soil absorbing water and certain mineral nutrients. These needed supplies are shunted back to the plants roots through the extensive network.

### **Forest Service Help Wanted**

Chilao Visitor Center has a wide variety of volunteer opportunities available. Volunteers can lead a monthly nature walk or an occasional prescheduled school or campground presentation or can staff the Visitor Center and help others enjoy their visit to the Forest. For more information, contact Howard Okamoto



**The  
Angeles National Forest  
is YOUR great  
outdoors – to visit,  
to care for  
and to enjoy!**

### **More Volunteers are Needed**

**Planting trees at Chilao Campground**



**We need You!**

# Don't just read this, join a group!

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

Kermit Eller [kermiteller@dslextreme.com](mailto:kermiteller@dslextreme.com)

### ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL (AMBP) [mmcguirepoolspa@cs.com](mailto:mmcguirepoolspa@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.

### Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group (ACTRWG)

[Sameeretman@hotmail.com](mailto:Sameeretman@hotmail.com)

[www.altadenatrails.org](http://www.altadenatrails.org) 626-797-7243

Please consider using our Freelantropy <http://www.freelantropy.com/?> engine page for all your web searches. Each use provides 2 cents to help defray the costs of printing and mailing public comments, petitions and letters, at no cost to you. Thanks!

### Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trailkeepers

Mark Gage [mrgy33@hotmail.com](mailto:mrgy33@hotmail.com)

Hikers and Bikers working together on trails. We work on the trails almost every Saturday.

Pictured below is our newest member to our group, Saeed Zohari. Welcome!



### Altadena Foothills Conservancy

[Rob@altadenafoothills.org](mailto:Rob@altadenafoothills.org)

626-798-3235

### Alpine Training Services

<http://www.atsenviroaction.com>

Environmental Action Days (E.A.D.) are an original creation of Alpine Training Services. We felt with the increased traffic canyons have seen over the last several years as the sport of canyoneering has grown, it was necessary to initiate a series of cleanup days to keep the canyons free of trash. E.A.D. is a new program from Alpine Training Services representing our "One Earth" philosophy — that being there is only. One Earth for us to live on, grow on, and make a future on. To learn more about Alpine Training Services and the programs we offer including our full course curriculums for canyoneering, rock climbing, kayaking, & backpacking feel free to follow the above linking, kayaking, & backpacking feel free to follow the above link

January 2007

Canyoneering - Last years Canyoneering EAD was a blast and became the largest widespread trash cleanup and graffiti removal in the history of the Angeles National Forest. This one is sure to be better. Free canyon trips, free dinner, free giveaways and you get to help the planet!

### The Audubon Center at Debs Park

[http://www.audubon-ca.org/debs\\_park.htm](http://www.audubon-ca.org/debs_park.htm)  
(323) 221-2255

The Audubon Center is a unique urban nature center, envisioned by Audubon as a model to serve a new demographic of nature lovers. Located along the historic Arroyo Seco Parkway (110 Freeway) between downtown Los Angeles and City of Pasadena, in Ernest E. Debs Regional Park. Hours: Wed. thru Sun. 9am-5pm

# Join One Today

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### Boy Scouts of America

The High Adventure Team – Los Angeles Area Council provides training opportunities for all interested individuals. For more information: [www.boyscoutsla.org](http://www.boyscoutsla.org) click H.A.T.

### BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

(BCTC) <http://www.outdoorsclub.org/>  
Richard 626-285-0962

Are you enjoying this picture of Bear Canyon?  
Then join us on December 2 for a hike into Bear Canyon!!



### High Country Riders

Forest wide equestrian volunteer group that patrols trails and can pack equipment, supplies etc to your worksite.

Jonathan Schultz 951-830-3400  
[maujds@earthlink.net](mailto:maujds@earthlink.net)

### 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](http://www.ctuc.info).

### Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA) <http://www.corbambt.com>

Hi all,

On November 4-5 we will join the Forest Service and other volunteer groups to continue working on the Mount Zion trail in the Angeles National Forest just above Arcadia. This is a great trail in a beautiful area of the forest. The trail has been neglected for many years and needs lot of TLC! Come out for one or both days. Overnight lodging is available to trail crew volunteers at Camp Sturtevant. Info will be on the web site soon!

Also mark your calendars for November 18<sup>th</sup> Frank Padilla will be having an introductory to trail maintenance work shop at Malibu Creek State Park.

You can always see upcoming trail projects at:

<http://www.corbambt.com/website/html-programs/programs-trailcrew.html>

CORBA Trail Crew

### HABITAT WORKS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (HABITAT WORKS)

Tom Persons 310-412-4986

Kim Clark 818-353-4653

If you're interested in the environment or volunteering for wildlife or habitat conservation projects around the Los Angeles or Southern California, check out

[www.HabitatWork.org](http://www.HabitatWork.org)

Nov 18/19, 2006

Piru Creek DayHikes and Tamarisk Removal  
RSVP if you plan to attend.

**Dec. 2/3, 2006**

**San Emigdio Creek, Wind Wolves Preserve.** RSVP if you plan to attend.

**Dec. 9/10, 2006**

**Fish Canyon & Cienega Campground Angeles National Forest.** RSVP if you plan to attend.

# Join One Today

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center [www.haramokngna.org](http://www.haramokngna.org)

For additional information: 626-445-8975  
“Need volunteers to assist in implementing the Harmokngna Design Plan”

Nov 4 – Guest Host -  
Nov 11 - Rabbit Skin Blanket  
Nov 18 - Hands-on Activities  
Nov 25 - Hands-on Activities  
  
Dec 2 – Guest Host -  
Dec 9 - Hands-on Activities  
Dec 16 – Winter Solstice

### SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919  
[Emworks@verizon.net](mailto:Emworks@verizon.net)

Every early December, with Forest approval, we organize a public outing up to the Alpine Tavern site at Mount Lowe to honor the anniversary of its opening. If interested in joining, make a reservation seats are limited.

### Outward Bound Adventures (OBA)

<http://www.obainc.org>

OBA – Every Second Saturday of the Month OBA hosts Drop-in-hikes. These hikes are open to the public for youth aged 11-18. Hikers meet at OBA at 9am on Saturday morning and participate in a day-long curriculum that engages youth in environmental education, teambuilding activities, Leave No Trace Wilderness principles, outdoor careers and a physical challenge.  
Phone: 626-564-0844  
E-mail: [obainc.sbcglobal.net](mailto:obainc.sbcglobal.net)  
website: [www.obainc.org](http://www.obainc.org)

### Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA)

<http://www.pcta.org>

“Mission of the PCTA is to protect, preserve, promote the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail as to reflect its worldclass significance for the enjoyment, education and adventure of hikers equestrians.

For additional information: ·

Suzanne Wilson ‘Fannypack’  
Regional Representative Projects on SBNE, ANF, and BLM.  
951-492-9836 [swilson@pcta.org](mailto:swilson@pcta.org)

### JPL TRAILBUILDERS

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

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)  
626-798-7256 (home)  
Jack Russell 562-861-3187

### WHAT'S HAPPENING:

We will continue maintenance on the Strawberry Peak Trail hiking from Josephine Saddle, until the hike is so long we cannot do much work. We are getting to areas that need a lot of brushing as the terrain keeps changing. A very interesting trail.

### TreePeople

TreePeople mission is to inspire the people of Los Angeles to take personal responsibility for the urban forest - educating, training and supporting them as they plant and care for trees and improve the neighborhoods in which they live, learn, work and play.

For more information

Volunteering (818) 623-4879  
[volunteer@treepeople.org](mailto:volunteer@treepeople.org)

### Monrovia Canyon Park

[http://www.ci.monrovia.ca.us/city\\_hall/public\\_works/canyon\\_park/canyon\\_park.htm](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

## Trail patrol/hike

Dear Hikers:

Our October 14, 2006 hike came out as planned. At 8:30 we started from Hobbs Estate in Altadena, went up the Lower Sam Merrill trail to Echo Mountain, up the Middle Sam Merrill trail to the Alpine Tavern campground, where we stopped for lunch at noon. It was cloudy with the temperature in the low fifties. From there we went to Inspiration Point, down the Castle Canyon trail to Echo Mountain and back to Cobbs Estate, where we arrived at 4 pm and 10.3 miles later. On the way up on the lower Sam Merrill trail we ran into Mark Gage and Saeed Zohari from the Angeles Mountain bikers and Trail Keepers Association doing a great job brushing the trail (picture attached). On Echo Mountain a group of avid mountaineers were getting ready to rappel down the water falls in Rubio Canjon. Their leader said that he had done it before and invited us see the pictures at [www.ATSPhotolab.com](http://www.ATSPhotolab.com).

The Middle Sam Merrill trail going downhill is heavily used by mountain bikers, and the resulting ruts, one foot deep in places, show it. Starting about one mile from the Idlehour junction the brush gets heavy in places. At 0.4 miles from Idlehour junction a 20 ft section of the trail is gone, about 6 ft deep in the center, a nice place for a weldwire wall project. The Castle Canyon trail starting 0.25 miles from Inspiration Point is also getting very brushy all the way down to the crossing of the second creek, about 1.6 miles from and about 1200 ft below the top. About 0.7 miles from the top a 12" diameter oak tree is perched 5 ft above the trail, but the smaller branches have already been cut off, so not problem to get through. The Castle Canyon trail itself has always been a little rough, and it is not a whole lot worse than when I hiked it two years ago.

As usual I took lots of pictures. Drop me an email if interested in specifics. The cool cloudy weather made this a very pleasant hike.

Don't forget to mark your calendar November 11 and December 9 for the next hikes.

George Aumann

### **“Caring for the Land and Serving People”**

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

Those seven words sum up the Forest Service's Mission. It's a pretty big mission, and the truth is, we couldn't accomplish it without the help of our volunteers.

If you're already a volunteer or partner, thanks for all that you've done. We hope to work with you some more. If you've never volunteered, but you're interested in getting involved, please fill the form and send to Howard.

There are many ways you can volunteer. Some of these involve sweat, blisters, and bug bites. Some require pounding nails or maintaining trails. Campgrounds are the home base for hosts. An archeology site is where you might find volunteers sifting through soil layers. Watershed restoration, reforestation, plant surveys, wildlife surveys, interpreters and naturalists at Visitor Centers... these areas all need volunteer help. Chances are, if you've got a skill or interest, we might be able to match it with a need.

## What has occurred in the Angeles Forest since January 1, 2006?

Calendar 2006 (Prepared 10/28/2006 10:52)	
Incident Type	# of Incidents
Aircraft Down	4
Emergency Standby	3
Hazmat	21
Law Enforcement	1197
Medical Aid	316
Miscellaneous	2398
Prescribed Fire	34
Public Assist	277
Resource Order	246
Search & Rescue	85
Smoke Check	65
Structure Fire	19
Traffic Collision	600
Vegetation Fire	321
Vehicle Fire	142
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>5728</b>



## Having Bear Problems?

There was a bear/human contact incident during the August 27 Volunteer Forest Service potluck at the Buckhorn Ski Club.

Fortunately it was Smokey Bear that had come to visit the Potluck!

There was Lots and lots of good food and appreciation for all the hard work that was done in the Forest!



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



**More volunteers are  
needed!**

**Fill the form!**

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**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/ Smokey Bear - Fire Prevention/**

**Recreation Aid / Forest Patrol /Resource Management / Computers/**

**Research-Librarian / Office Clerical / Tour guide/ Fire Lookout/**

**Conservation Education**

**Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# “Mt. Zion Trail Days”

Spend a day or two helping rescue the Mt. Zion Trail from overgrowth and trail damage. Tools provided based on your preference (shovel, loppers, Pulaski, rake, McLeod, etc.)

. **Free Dinner**

. **Overnight Lodging**

Adams' Pack Station will transport equipment and materials for volunteers, and offer them a free evening cookout at Sturtevant Camp ([www.adamspackstation.com](http://www.adamspackstation.com))

Sturtevant Camp ([www.sturtevantcamp.org](http://www.sturtevantcamp.org)) will provide full-day and two-day volunteers a bed in a cabin Saturday evening, hot showers and full amenities (\$10 donation)

**Sat. Nov. 5, 8am-3pm**

**Sun Nov. 6, 8am-3pm**

To volunteer, contact the Angeles National Forest Trails Program at 818-899-1900 x250

Participants must have a signed volunteer agreement (individual or group) and **must RSVP** to the number above **before 11/1/06**

