



# 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 October 2006 Vol. 4 Issue 9

## INDEX

Calendar..... pg 2

Volunteer Group News.... pg 3 - 7

Angeles National Forest service help wanted. pg 3

Angeles Forest Trivia.....pg 3

Trail Patrol report.....pg 7

### GREETINGS

#### **VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE**

Autumn has arrived based upon the amount of smoke in the air. As you start to either play or work in the Angeles National Forest, take care in observing your surroundings. As indicated by the Pines Fire, a 100 acre fire near Clear Creek Fire Station, your surroundings can change dramatically from a peaceful forest environment to a raging wildland fire scenario. Stay alert of your surroundings, keep calm, think clearly, and act decisively. Remember hunting season is upon us, so be visible when adventuring into the underbrush.

Congratulations to Eleanor Carter, Ray David, Guy Kuhn and Dolores Pressnall in accomplishing the 1000 hour volunteer service milestone. Thank you for your dedicated in providing a quality recreational experience to the Angeles National Forest visitors. If anyone else has achieved this milestone, please contact me.

Are you interested in either assisting us in enforcing the Pass Program or learning about the Forest Service Law Enforcement Program, if so we'll be conducting an 8 hr Basic Law Enforcement Orientation class on November 4<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1000 hr. Location to be determined. This training will improve your capability for making information contact with the Public and improve your knowledge regarding this program. If you want more information or want to attend, please contact me.

It's that time of year when we develop our annual report on volunteer hours and projects for Congress. It's also that time to issue new Administrative Passes to all individuals, who have contributed 100 hours of volunteer service. Please make sure your Group Leader submits your volunteer service hours to me or e-mail me your times. The Administrative Passes will be distributed in November.

An October 2006 to September 2007 Events Calendar, that shows what events are planned for is available. If you want one contact your Group Leader or e-mail me. Also, let me know if I missed one of your events.

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)

/s/ Howard S. Okamoto

Angeles National Forest

Los Angeles River Ranger District  
Recreation Officer

**Volunteers are needed to fix this trail on page 8. Fill the form!**

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

**Los Angeles River Ranger District  
Volunteer Events Calendar  
October 2006**

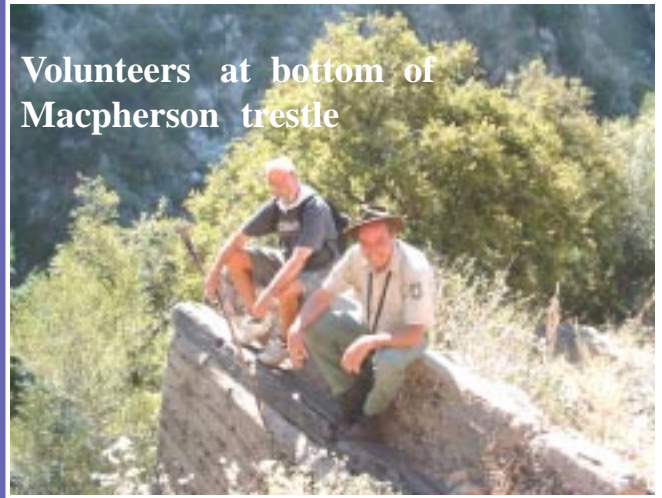
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <u>Jpl Trailbuilders</u>
8	9	10 ACTRWG Steering meeting	11	12	13	(14) <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <u>PATROL HIKE</u> <u>Corba's Fat Tire Fest &amp; Fundraiser</u> <u>ACTRWG Hike</u>
15 CORBA Mt Zion Trail	16	17 <u>ANFLA Condor recovery</u>	18	19	20 Habitat Works Monrovia Canyon Park	21 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <u>Jpl Trailbuilders</u>
22 Habitat Works Hungry Valley State Park	23	24 ACTRWG Workshop	25	26	27	28 <u>Haramokngna Cultural Center</u> <u>Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol</u> <u>ACTRWG Trailwork</u>
29	30					

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

## 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

Volunteers at bottom of Macpherson trestle



## Angeles National Forest Trivia

What is this?

Have you come across this in the Angeles Forest?

This creature is the amazing Giant Water Bug!

The one pictured is a male Water Bug. The males carry the eggs on their back until the eggs hatch.



This particular creature is a predator. It eats small fish, tadpoles, snails, insects and other invertebrates (creatures that don't have a backbone). They feed by catching organisms with their large, powerful, front legs, followed by injecting the prey with a toxin to immobilize and/or kill it. Then they suck the juices out of whatever it is. They are not scavengers -- they like fresh meat.

Giant Water Bugs serve an important role as being the top invertebrate predator, especially in wetlands that don't have fish to control insect populations. Much like lions, tigers and humans, Giant Water Bugs are at the top of their food chain and keep populations of smaller invertebrate from exploding and taking over.

These bugs swim very fast. But if you happen to get a hold of a live one, either by catching it in a net or finding one that has left the water and is on land, be VERY CAREFUL to keep your fingers away from its piercing mouth part or "beak" as it can inflict a very painful bite. These bugs are sometimes referred to as "Toebiters". Its mouth is actually not so much a "beak" as it is a sort of syringe -- like a mosquito, but larger and nastier.



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

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

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

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookout>

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

The ANFFLA October 17 supersession will include a presentation on the condor recovery program.

### 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 Foothills Conservancy [Rob@altadenafoothills.org](mailto:Rob@altadenafoothills.org)

626-798-3235

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

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

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

### ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKERS AND TRAIL KEEPERS.

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

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

### 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).

### 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.

### 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

### BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

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

Join us this December!!

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

CORBA is committed to:

1. Maintaining access to and gaining access to trails in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas, through education, information and preservation.
2. Educating mountain bicyclists in the safe and appropriate use of mountain bikes.
3. Contributing to the building and maintaining of riding areas in Los Angeles and its surrounding areas.

# Join One Today

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### 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

### 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”

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

Tom Persons 310-402-6700

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)

**Fri., October 20, 2006, 9:00 am - 4:00 p.m.**

**Invasive Plant Removal**

**Monrovia Canyon Park**

**RSVP if you plan to attend.**

**Lunch will be provided for full day attendees.**

**Sun., October 22, 2006, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Hungry Valley State Park**

**Canyon Live Oak Acorn Collecting and Planting RSVP if you plan to attend.**

### 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)

### JPL TRAILBUILDERS

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

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)

626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

We completed maintenance on the top half of the San Gabriel Peak Trail . one day rebuilding a reinforcing rock wall (fetching enough large rocks was time-consuming) and another day rebuilding some large steps and widening the trail in that area.

We were saddened to see that the memorial sign to Bill Reilly at the top had been destroyed. We have already had 2 offers for replacements, and will be sure to make it of sturdy metal this time instead of wood.

Our last outing we moved on to Strawberry Peak Trail from Josephine Saddle. That required one piece of road repair on the way up.

On August 27 the Forest Service organized a pot luck for the volunteers at Buckhorn Ski Club. Lots and lots of good food and appreciation. Four more of our JPL Trailbuilder volunteers received 1,000 hour awards Eleanor Carter, Ray David, Guy Kuhn, and Dolores Pressnall. Congratulations!! This is also the year that the JPL Trailbuilders celebrates 25 years of service.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING:

We will continue maintenance on the Strawberry Peak Trail and top of Colby Canyon Trail. Beautiful views up there!

### 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

# Join One Today

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### 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

Tom Persons Telephone (818) 623-4846

Email [tpersons@treepeople.org](mailto:tpersons@treepeople.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 SBNF, 951-492-9836 ANF, and BLM.

[swilson@pcta@org](mailto:swilson@pcta@org)

### The Audubon Center at Debs Park

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

### SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

[Emworks@verizon.net](mailto:Emworks@verizon.net)

We were tipped off by Charles Seims that there were 2 doors from the safe that was originally at the Alpine Tavern. After looking extensively from the Cape to the north along the longest straight section we had given up.

You can't see it from the photos, but we were on the side of the mountain that was about a 70 degree slope. Climbing back up and looking for an easier route we came upon, guess what ? - the doors from the Alpine Tavern Safe. We rigged up the cart and tried to lift it but we did not have our good ropes or pulleys.

One of the ropes broke and we lost it after lifting about 15 feet up the steep hill. It did a flip and almost hit Brian.

We will come another day with the right equipment.



## Hathaway - Sycamores Child & Family Service

What's happening at Hathaway School

•The School's SRLA Marathon Training Team kicks off their '06-'07 season Sunday, October 8th at the "Alive and Running" 5k. Run Hawks Run!

•The Village School's Annual "Haunted Highway" will take place Thursday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 4-10pm. Additional volunteers are welcome to participate. Contact Kevin Sarkissian at [ksarkissian@hathawaychildren.org](mailto:ksarkissian@hathawaychildren.org) or 818 896 2474 x 306 if you want to help out!



## Trail patrol/hike

Dear Hikers (actual, or wishing they did):

For our monthly hike last Saturday, 9 September, we hiked from Islip Saddle (6700 ft elevation) to Mt Hawkins (8850 ft elevation) via Little Jimmy and Windy Gap. We had a late start at 10 AM from Islip Saddle. Except for the first 1/4 mile from there, which needs brushing, the trail is in good shape, marked with yellow ribbons in preparation for the AC100 race. Little Jimmy was very clean, with only five hikers stopped for lunch, no tents or campfires. In total we ran into seven hikers, but not the (on the PCT illegal) bikers, who left their fresh tire tracks in the sand. The fire spared the trees on Mt. Hawkins and the view is still unobstructed. When we departed from the top at 3 PM, the flair-up of the Day fire looked like a rapidly developing thunderstorm cloud on the western horizon. The trail goes through long stretches of the PCT damaged by the Emerald Lake fire in 2003 (?). As usual, the burn areas really come to life with wild flowers. In the attached picture the rabbit bush in full bloom provided a spectacular foreground for the dead trees and the mountains in the background (looking west on the PCT near Mt.Hawkins). The original 7 Mpixel image looks even better. When we passed through Little Jimmy on the way back at about 4 PM, the camp was empty. I estimated the roundtrip would be about 8 miles, and my pedometer read 8.9 miles when we got back to the car a little before 5 pm. Not too bad.



The long road to recovery

I am already thinking of the next hike on 14 October. Please mark it on your calendar. Suggestions regarding destination welcome.

George Aumann

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



**More volunteers are  
needed!**

**Fill the form!**

---

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

\_\_\_\_\_