

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 FEB 2007 Vol. 5 Issue 2

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

This month marks my 4th year on the Angeles National Forest and provides me an opportunity to say **THANK YOU** for all your cooperation, dedication and patience in developing a Volunteer Program that I consider one of the best Programs, I've been associated. As we adventure forward, I hope we'll continue to build upon this foundation in providing a quality recreational experience for our visitors and meeting your expectations regarding this Program.

It appears that winter has finally arrived which means it's time to get a new mental attitude about **SAFETY**. Gone are the needs for constant rattlesnake or poison oak awareness. In their place is a need to consider how we defend against things such as cold and wet weather, driving on slick highways, and shorter days. Other items that you need to consider before venturing out in the forest to work or play during the winter months. Is your vehicle equipped with chains, and do you know how to use them? Does someone know where you are going and your expected time of return. (Don't forget to check in with Angeles Dispatch if you're working.) Have you checked the weather forecast?

Just like warm weather, there are some specific items about cold weather that you need to consider to maximize your own safety.

As you venture into the Forest remember that conditions are not normal for this time of year. The Fire Danger is high however fire starts are exhibiting abnormal fire behavior and wildlife sightings (ie mountain lion sighted near Chaney Trail) are abnormal because of the abnormally dry winter season.

As you can see, the Volunteer Events Calendar is slowly filling up and is becoming a valuable tool for advertising your events and training opportunities. To assist in making this document better remember to e-mail hokamoto@fs.fed.us with any information regarding your event and comments on improving this document.

During the next few months, numerous events (IMBA Trail Crew, California Trails Day etc) are scheduled to provide an opportunity for you to experience the various Partnerships, Forest environments and training opportunities, so if you don't see an event of interest, please contact me.

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 in providing a quality recreation experience on the Angeles National Forest.

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

INDEX

Calendar.....	pg 2
Angeles Forest Trivia.....	pg 3
Angeles National Forest service help wanted.....	pg 3
Volunteer Group News.....	pg 4 - 6
Trail Patrol report.....	pg 7
Staying Safe in Mountain Lion Country	pg 8
Trail Boss Training	pg 9
Chain Saw Training	pg 9

What to do when you see this being done on page 10?

When I was born. I was so surprised I couldn't talk for a year and a half.

Los Angeles River Ranger District

Volunteer Events Calander

February 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Chainsaw Training San Gabriel Trailbuilders Alpine Training Services The Audubon Center at Debs Park
4 Chainsaw Training CORBA Mt Zion Trail Ride	5	6	7	8	9	10 Bear Cyn Trail Mtn Trail Patrol/hike OBA Drop-In HIKE
11	12	13 ACTRWG Mtg	14	15	16	17 San Gabriel Trailbuilders Habitat Works Fish Canyon CORBA JPL Trailbuilders Strawberry Pk Trail CORBA Ken Burton Trail
18 Habit Works Fish Canyon	19 PRESIDENTS DAY Habitat Works Condor microtrash PCTA - Pine Cyn Road	20	21 Monthly LARRD Volunteer Meeting	22 SCVTAC Mtg	23	24 Trail Boss Training Angeles Mtn Bike Patrol
25 Trail Boss Training	26	27	28			

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

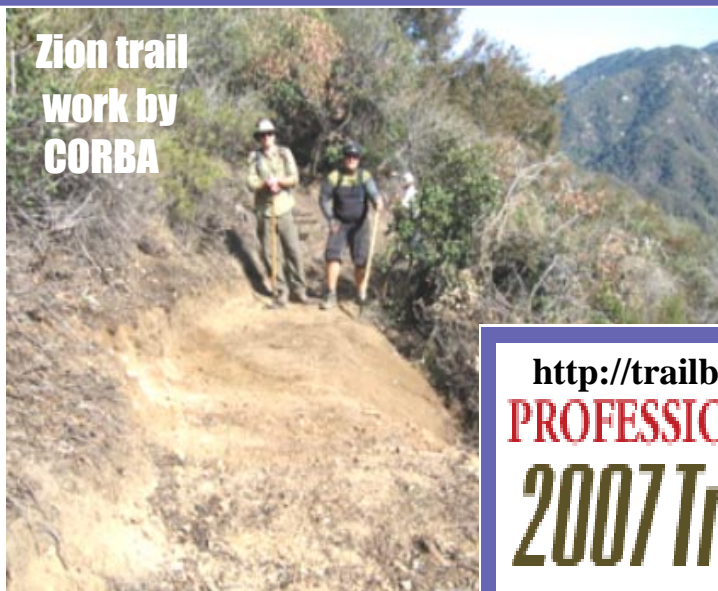
Are you interested in learning about presenting Environmental Education Programs? Los Angeles Conservation Corps, San Bernardino National Forest Association, and Mt Baldy Education Center is conducting school environmental education programs at Eaton Canyon Nature Center .

These tours are being conducted on Tuesday afternoon, if you're interested in assisting in this program by being a tour/host assistant, please contact Howard what dates you would like to assist, so that he can provide you with further details.

February 6 & 27 March 6 & 13
April 3 & 17 May 8 & 22
June 5 & 19

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



Angeles National Forest Trivia

Feeding wildlife is dead wrong.

Allowing wild animals access to human food and garbage can be deadly.

Wild animals naturally fear people, keep a distance, and will not bother you, so long as they remain truly wild.

But if they have access to human food and garbage, they want more. Their natural ways are ruined. Their normal wildness and fear of humans is lost.

That's when conflicts occur.

Keep them wild.

If in doubt about what to do, ask your local Fish and Game warden, park ranger, law enforcement officer, garbage collection company, or town council.

Or visit our website:
www.keepmewild.org



<http://trailbuilders.org/conference/registration.html>

PROFESSIONAL TRAILBUILDERS ASSOCIATION

2007 Trailbuilders Conference

MARCH 4-9, 2007 • RENO, NEVADA

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

Kermit Eller kermiteller@dslextreme.com

Altadena Foothills Conservancy

Rob@altadenafoothills.org

626-798-3235

Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group (ACTRWG)

www.altadenatrails.org 626-797-7243

Please consider using our Freelanthropy <http://www.freelanthropy.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!



Welcome
Oliver Mittelstaedt

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trailkeepers

Mark Gage mrgy33@hotmail.com

I would like to welcome Oliver Mittelstaedt who came out and helped on the Castle Cyn. Trail. On Jan 27 we finished the brushing in Castle Cyn.. You can now go through without having to fight through the shrubery. Plus you can see where to put your feet. A lot of tread work to be done though. But the brushing was a huge challenge. Need more help, and go out almost every Saturday.

Mark

ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL (AMBP) 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.

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.

February 3 2007

Dam breaking in the Angeles National Forest. Come join the Forest Service and ATS for an exciting restoration event. Breaking apart manmade rock dams, planting native seeds, and trimming trails to the river. To reserve your place, call 626.335.1251.

The Audubon Center at Debs Park

http://www.audubon-ca.org/debs_park.htm

(323) 221-2255

February 3 2007

Birds of the Arroyo Seco

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 click H.A.T.

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

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

February 10 2007

Tell a friend!!!

The work is very rewarding and we work in an environment that is absolutely beautiful. If you have never been to Bear Canyon, now is your chance!

Do YOU spend time in the mountains? Hiking, camping or just relaxing??

Then you know just how serene it can be. Now is your chance to give something back. This is your way to say thanks without expecting thanks in return. The needs of the many, out weigh the needs of the one. We can do for others, what they cannot do for themselves. We can do this together, "One Day At A Time".

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

<http://www.corbamtb.com>

**February 4 Mount Zion Trail ride
and wrap party**

February 17 Ken Burton Trail

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center www.haramokngna.org
For additional information: 626-445-8975
"Need volunteers to assist in implementing the Harmokngna Design Plan"

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

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.

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

A great big THANK YOU to all who came out for microtrash clean up on Martin Luther King Day.

Despite the cold temps and howling winds, we gathered 46 lbs of bottle caps, broken glass, washers, nuts bolts, zip ties, plastic, and other junk that will NOT end up you-know-where. 46 pounds is a lot, and brings us to a total of 1,667 lbs of microtrash since Summer 2004. And with two successful condor fledglings during that same time, we know this is helping. Thank you for your contribution, and for making a difference for condor chicks in the California Condor wild breeding program.

Warmest regards,
Kim and Tom

**Feb 17 & 18 Fish Canyon! Streamwork
(Gorgeous canyon, fun project, excellent camping)**

Feb 19 Condor Microtrash, Angeles National Forest

Join One Today

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org/>

Ben White bwootenwhite@hotmail.com

We are committed to following environmentally-sound construction principles and working with conservation-minded individuals and agencies to preserve and respect the natural habitat, while at the same time, building trails to provide Angelinos with a wholesome and safe recreational experience as they enjoy the gift of our beautiful mountains.

Our regularly scheduled work days are the first, third, and fifth Saturday of each month.

[Come join us!](#)

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

Emworks@verizon.net

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

website: www.obainc.org

Second Saturdays of each Month OBA's Drop-In Hikes, Open to the Public, for youth ages 11-18. Please call OBA at (626) 564-0844 for details.

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, ANF, and BLM.

951-492-9836 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

Feb 17 Strawberry Peak Trail

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

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

Trail patrol/hike

Dear Hikers:

The Trail Patrol Volunteer group had there regular “2nd Saturday of the month” hike on January 13. We went from Clear Creek on HW 2 to the end of the Arrojo on Windsor and Ventura street in Altadena via SwitzerCampground, Oakwild, Paul Little and Gould Mesa. At the Clear Creek trailhead at 9 AM it was a little cold under blue skies, but we came prepared with ski jackets. By the time we reached Oakwild at 11 AM it was starting to warm up. There we were joined for lunch by two hikers who had come all the way from Redbox. From Oakwild the trail crosses the Arroyo numerous time, which could be adventuresome after a big rain, but now all crossing are dry. A quick 0.2 mile side trail from Paul Little brough us to the large pool on the base of a 120 ft waterfall created by the overflow from the concrete flood control dam put in by the USFS in 1942 (see picture). The waterfall is only 3.8 miles from the end of the Arroyo and popular with mountain bikers. The Paul Little Picknick Area (outhouses closed) appears to be how far cars used to be able to travel into the Arroyo. Now only some concrete walls are left after the big rains in the mid 1930’s washed almost everything away. By 2 :30 PM we reached our car at the trailhead on Windsor and Ventura, 9.8 miles from Clear Creek according to my pedometer.

The campgrounds and picknick areas along the way were clean, but unoccupied. The men’s outhouse at Oakwild, the only open “facility” between Switzer and Gould Mesa has a hole in the roof, a 10” tree lies 3 ft high across the trail about 0.8 miles south of Oakwild, trouble for bikers and horses, but no problem for hikers.

If you want to join us for the next hike, mark February 10 on your calender.
I am hoping for a snowshoe hike under blue skies.
George Aumann

hhaumann@gmail.com



PCTA PACK TEAM



Staying Safe in Mountain Lion Country

A cougar has been sighted near the Altadena Crest Trail just to the NE of Chaney Trail. I thought this might be a good time to remind everyone about the obvious: We live within the urban / wildland interface of Angeles National Forest where cougars, bears, and yes... the most deadly predator on the planet... humans... roam together. Most of the time we keep out of each other's way; however, there is always potential for confrontation.

Mountain lions are quiet, solitary and elusive, and typically avoid people. Mountain lion attacks on humans are extremely rare. However, conflicts are increasing as California's human population expands into mountain lion habitat.

- Do not hike, bike, or jog alone.
- Avoid hiking or jogging when mountain lions are most active—dawn, dusk, and at night.
- Keep a close watch on small children.
- Do not approach a mountain lion.
- If you encounter a mountain lion, do not run; instead, face the animal, make noise and try to look bigger by waving your arms; throw rocks or other objects. Pick up small children.
- If attacked, fight back.
- If a mountain lion attacks a person, immediately call 911.



Become a USFS approved Trail Boss

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 personal 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 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 Safety, Condition Survey, Brush Clearing, Tread Work, French Drains, Soil Sacks, Water Bars, Switchback Construction, Tread Support, Etc.

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

Available training days in 2007 are: Feb. 24,25. Apr. 28,29. May. 06,07.

Call to confirm training day for yourself. (Course cancels if no calls)

We Meet at the McDonald's at Bouquet Canyon Rd. and Valencia Blvd. At 8:00 AM .

Contact:

Patrick Aubuchon, Chief Trail Boss.

818-781-7465 - bigaub@sbcglobal.net



ANF Chain Saw Certification School

Feb 3 & 4

First session, Conducted by Angeles NF, Covers safety, operation, and saw maintenance and includes lots of practical work.

Bring your leather boots, gloves, and daypack, also chain saw, chaps, flak helmet or hardhat if you have them.

Greg Stemno will be the chief instructor. Class starts at 8 am and ends at 4:30 pm both days. We will be on our own for meals, but our mobile kitchen trailer will be there.

Arrive on Friday afternoon if you want to car/tent camp near the fire station.

Location – USFS Bear Divide Station
21501 N SAND CYN RD
SANTA CLARITA CA 91350

Contact Pete Fish 805-658-6540
pickaxepete@sbcglobal.net.



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



Stop the Illegal waste dump in the Angeles Forest!

If you're a volunteer, you contact Dispatch for an Incident Number and submit an Incident Report to your Volunteer Coordinator.

If you're a visitor, you contact the nearest Forest Service Office and report the incident and we'll send a Forest Officer to investigate the incident.

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: _____
