



# 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 2007 Vol. 5 Issue 1

## GREETINGS

### VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

Happy New Year!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and that this New Year will continue to bring you prosperity.

Michael McIntyre has accepted the Los Angeles River District Ranger position and will be reporting on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Some of you might know or have worked with Mr. McIntyre, since he's been the Angeles National Forest Archaeologist for the past several years. If you haven't met him, please come by and introduce yourself.

There is now a new interagency recreation pass that will benefit visitors to national public lands. The new pass combines the benefits of existing recreation passes from five federal agencies into one comprehensive annual pass. The new program replaces the Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and the Golden Access Passports as well as the National Parks Pass. This new pass is called, the America the Beautiful Pass – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass

Hahamongna Annex update. City staff with the help of the National Park Service RTCA Program has been conducting further research on the project, learning about other similar facilities to serve as possible models for the site, and developing a plan with draft recommendations for adoption by the Pasadena City Council. These recommendations will be shared with the community prior to any presentations to the Advisory Bodies and the City Council.

The tentative order of events will be to hold a community meeting sometime in February; soon thereafter, present the draft plan to the Recreation and Parks Commission and other appropriate City commissions; and then sometime in March take the draft plan to the City Council for adoption. Again, this schedule is all tentative.

Los Angeles County Conservation Corp and Mt. Baldy Education Center are conducting Environmental Education field trips at Eaton Canyon Nature Center (winter) and Switzers Picnic Area (spring) from January – June, every other Tuesday. If interested in assisting in this program, 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](mailto: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

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**Interested in volunteering to save lives as shown on pg 10?. Then make the phone call!**

**Be nice to people. They outnumber you 5.5 billion to one**

# January 2007

| Sunday                       | Monday  | Tuesday         | Wednesday                      | Thursday | Friday | Saturday  |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------|--------|---|
|                              | 1<br>NEW YEAR'S<br>DAY                          | 2               | 3                              | 4        | 5      | 6<br>Mt Lowe Hist<br>San Gabriel Trailbuilders  |
| 7<br>CORBA – Mt<br>Zion      | 8   | 9<br>ACTRWG Mtg | 10                             | 11       | 12     | 13<br>Bear Cyn Trail Mtn<br>Patrol Hike   |
| 14                           | 15<br>MARTIN<br>LUTHER<br>KING'S<br>HabitatWork | 16              | 17<br>Monthly<br>Volunteer Mtg | 18       | 19     | 20<br>Mt Lowe Hist<br>JPL TRAILBUILDERS<br>Trail Boss Training<br>San Gabriel Trailbuilders |
| 21<br>Trail Boss<br>Training | 22  | 23              | 24                             | 25       | 26     | 27<br>Angles Mtn Bike Patrol  |
| 28                           | 29  | 30              | 31                             |          |        |   |

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.

January 23 & 30  
March 6 & 13  
May 8 & 22

February 6 & 27  
April 3 & 17  
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



Virgin Bower by George Aumann.

## Angeles National Forest Trivia

Have you seen a water tank laying on the ground?

When hiking through Angeles Forest and come across what looks like a large water tank?

It is actually a water heater that sat on top of a wood burning stove as shown in the picture.

Cabins were artesian spring feed so there was no need for water tanks to hold cold water. So the next time you see one of these tanks it is actually a water heater



Strawberry peak Bower by George Aumann.

## 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)

### Altadena Foothills Conservancy

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

626-798-3235

### 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)

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

Please consider using our Freelanropy <http://www.freelanropy.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.

### 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.

#### 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

## Volunteers

## 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

Hi Everyone,

WoW!!! What a fantastic day we had. With the weather threatening we still had 18 volunteers show up to help get some needed work done in the canyon. We had two projects to do and we managed to get both done before the rains hit. We did have some off & on drizzles but nothing to dampen our spirits. We removed 2 trees along the trail, rebuilt a 60 yard section of trail in Bear Canyon and we cleaned up about 1/2 mile of tread work leading down into the canyon from above the falls. By some miracle the really really heavy rains did not hit until we were getting into our cars to head off the mountain. Totally unbelievable to say the least!!!

I'd like to thank all of those that participated and encourage others to join us in the future months as we continue our work to make the trail into Bear Canyon a much safer place for those that will come to enjoy this wonderful and beautiful serene canyon. Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year to all!!!  
Richard

### 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)

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

Jan 7, 2007

What: We will be working on the Mt Zion trail. It will be brush and tread work. The Mt Zion trail is located at the junction of Upper Winter Creek and Lower Winter Creek trails at Hoegee Campground, 2.75 miles from Chantry Flats. You are welcome to bike or hike to the work site

### 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).

### 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)

1/15/07 Martin Luther King Day of Service  
California Condor Conservation  
Bear Divide, Angeles National Forest

### 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”

# Join One Today

## VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS



MT. LOWE Dec 2nd Outing

### SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Many thanks to all of you great folks who came to our event at Mt Lowe on December 2nd. It was one of our best events so far. For pictures goto:

<http://www.mtlowe.net/Dec2006.htm>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

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

On 11 November 2006 we had a nice hike into Idlehour. We left from the trailhead near Inspiration point at 10:00 on a trail which had recently been brushed by parties unknown, probably as part of the AC100 race. There are a few bad spots in the trail, the most notable right after the first creek crossing, where about 150 ft of the trail was covered by a slide.

About half a mile from Idlehour the ruins of some of the 26 cabins from the early 1920's dot the side of the quiet stream with its alder trees, now in their best fall colors. The creek was not so quiet during the flood in the mid 1930's, which apparently destroyed virtually everything. The inscription on the fireplace in the attached picture says AD 1924 G.O.SAUWENS.

Another ruin carries a plaque in memory of Larry Walter a Forest Service volunteer who died here about 10 years ago.

After 3.5 miles, mostly down hill, we reached Idlehour. The campground was clean, with three campstoves, but no place to sit. With the Henninger Flats road closed this campground is obviously not getting much use.

On our way back we made a two hour off-trail sidetrip into the Deer Park Branch of the upper part of Eaton Canyon. The heavy rain from two years ago added to the devastation of the 1930's flood, but the creek is running low this late in the season, so the crossings were dry. The ghost of a cabin owner may be hounding the area in the disguise of a bear, but the fresh and impressively large heaps of bear scat looked very real. By 2 PM the temperature started to drop, ominous clouds started to move in and we got out. At 4:30 pm we were back at the trailhead, before the rain started. All told a very interesting 8.5 mile hike.

Unfortunately I will leave for San Francisco this weekend, so the planned 9 December hike will not happen. I am looking for snow on the next hike on 13 January 2007. Until then, seasons greetings,

George Aumann

### LARRY WALTERS MEMORIAL



**A NICE FIREPLACE NOT SO  
LONG AGO!**

# WHO WAS LARRY WALTERS?

Los Angeles Times archives.

Wednesday, November 24, 1993

Home Edition Section: PART A Page: A-16

Larry Walters; Soared to Fame on Lawn Chair. By Myrna Oliver, Times Staff Writer

Larry Walters, who achieved dubious fame in 1982 when he piloted a lawn chair attached to helium balloons 16,000 feet above Long Beach, has committed suicide at the age of 44.

Walters died Oct. 6 after hiking to a remote spot in Angeles National Forest and shooting himself in the heart, his mother, Hazel Dunham, revealed Monday. She said relatives knew of no motive for the suicide.

"It was something I had to do," Walters told The Times after his flight from San Pedro to Long Beach on July 2, 1982. "I had this dream for 20 years, and if I hadn't done it, I would have ended up in the funny farm."

Walters rigged 42 weather balloons to an aluminum lawn chair, pumped them full of helium and had two friends un-tether the craft, which he had dubbed "Inspiration I."

He took along a large bottle of soda, a parachute and a portable CB radio to alert air traffic to his presence. He also took a camera but later admitted, "I was so amazed by the view I didn't even take one picture."

Walters, a North Hollywood truck driver with no pilot or balloon training, spent about two hours aloft and soared up to 16,000 feet--three miles--startling at least two airline pilots and causing one to radio the Federal Aviation Administration.

Shivering in the high altitude, he used a pellet gun to pop balloons to come back to earth. On the way down, his balloons draped over power lines, blacking out a Long Beach neighborhood for 20 minutes. The stunt earned Walters a \$1,500 fine from the FAA, the top prize from the Bonehead Club of Dallas, the altitude record for gas-filled clustered balloons (which could not be officially recorded because he was unlicensed and unsanctioned) and international admiration. He appeared on "The Tonight Show" and was flown to New York to be on "Late Night With David Letterman," which he later described as "the most fun I've ever had."

"I didn't think that by fulfilling my goal in life--my dream--that I would create such a stir," he later told The Times, "and make people laugh."

Walters abandoned his truck-driving job and went on the lecture circuit, remaining sporadically in demand at motivational seminars. But he said he never made much money from his innovative flight and was glad to keep his simple lifestyle.

He gave his "aircraft"--the aluminum lawn chair--to admiring neighborhood children after he landed, later regretting it. In recent years, Walters hiked the San Gabriel Mountains and did volunteer work for the U.S. Forest Service.

"I love the peace and quiet," he told The Times in 1988. "Nature and I get along real well."

An Army veteran who served in Vietnam, Walters never married and had no children. He is survived by his mother and two sisters.

# America the Beautiful Pass

**America the Beautiful Pass – National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass, combines the benefits of existing recreation passes from five federal agencies into one comprehensive pass. The pass applies to those locations that currently have entrance or standard amenity fees.**

The new program replaces the Golden Eagle, Golden Age, and the Golden Access Passports as well as the National Parks Pass.

Sales of the new pass will begin in January 2007 and will be available at federal recreation sites that charge entrance and standard amenity fees, through government internet sites, and through select third-party vendors.

The four different passes in the new interagency program are:

- 1) A new annual interagency pass costing \$80—For visitors to multiple federal sites, the pass offers unlimited coverage of entrance and standard amenity recreation fees for a specific period of time, typically a year, beginning from the date of first use.
- 2) A \$10 lifetime senior pass for U.S. citizens 62 or over.
- 3) A free lifetime access pass for citizens with permanent disabilities; and
- 4) A new, free annual volunteer pass for volunteers acquiring 500 hours of service on a cumulative basis.

**For more information, please contact DOI's U.S. Geological Survey at <http://store.usgs.gov/pass> or phone 1-888-275-8747 Option 1.**

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

**The Altadena Mountain Rescue Team is a nonprofit volunteer organization dedicated to saving lives through mountain rescue and safety education.**



**On the average, the Altadena Mountain rescue Team assists approximately 100 lost or injured hikers and conducts almost 40 searches and rescues every year.**

**In addition to those rescues within Los Angeles County, the team has also participated in rescue operations throughout California, and in New York, Hawaii, and Mexico.**

**Emergency: Dial 911 (24 hours/7 days)**

**Non-Emergency/Business: (626) 798-1131**

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

\_\_\_\_\_