



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 MAR 2007 Vol. 5 Issue 3

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

The month of March appears to be the pre warm up for our field season with everyone busily working on enhancing the recreational experience on our trails and developed recreation facilities. This winter's strange weather pattern has created some interesting observations, locally and some dangerous conditions nationally.

- A volunteer has seen a baby rattlesnake in the Rubio Canyon area and it's only February. Remember if you see one there must be more nearby.
- People are running around with colds or sinus problems because one day it feels like summer and the next it's cold and rainy.
- Daylight Savings Time arrives 3 weeks earlier.

As you adventure out, Prepare for any type of situation.

There are two new trail opportunities on the horizon.

- Rim of the Valley Trail Working Group is working with the Santa Monica Conservancy to refine the corridor width of this proposed trail system. If interested, please contact Mary Benson, Executive Director Los Angeles Trails Project 800-660-0650.
- City of Glendale Parks, Recreation & Community Services is updating the trail systems for Verdugo Mountains, San Rafael Hills and Deukmejian Wilderness Park. If interested, please contact Jeff Weinstein, Trails and Open Space Specialist, City of Glendale Trails and Open Space Specialist, 818-548-2000.

CORBA has adopted the Silver Moccasin National Recreation Trail, Burton and Zion trails to go along with the Valley Forge Trail. What does this mean? These trails would always have a dedicated, knowledgeable human force looking out for its most pressing needs. They will schedule trail events, such as their April 7th project work day, from Shortcut Saddle to West Fork Trail Camp, supervise individuals/groups conducting trail maintenance work and provide us with operation information regarding these trails. If you're interested in adopting a trail, please contact me.

IMBA Trailbuilding Workshop is scheduled for March 24 & 25, if interested see Poster.

Chris Fabbro, Trails Program Manager is returning to his Fire Prevention position, effective 3/18. We aren't filling this position until Fiscal Year 2008 since we're operating under a Continuing Budget Resolution for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2007.

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

What is easy to start and hard to stop?.....pg 3

Angeles National Forest service help wanted.
..... pg 3

Welcome a new Volunteer Group
..... pg 3

Volunteer Group News..... pg 4 - 6

Trail Patrol report.....pg 7

ON LINE TRAINING..pg 7

IMBA WORKSHOP FLYER.....pg 8

A Note from Chris Fabbro
.....pg 9

What to do when you find a farm in the Angeles? page 8?

Choose your friends by their character and your socks by their color, Choosing your socks by their character makes no sense, and choosing your friends by their color is unthinkable.

Los Angeles River Ranger District

Volunteer Events Calander

MARCH 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 San Gabriel Trailbuilders Habitat Works Arroyo Toad Mt Lowe Hist "Granite gate"
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Bear Cyn Trail Mtnc Trail Patrol/Hike JPL Trailbuilders Strawberry Peak
11	12	13 ACTRWG Mtg	14	15	16	17 Habitat Works Microtrash San Gabriel Trailbuilders Alpine Training Services OBA, Inc Drop-in-hike
18 Habitat Works Mt Pacifico	19	20	21 CTUC Monthly Mtg LARRD Monthly Volunteer Mtg	22 SCVTAC Mtg IMBA Trail Crew	23 IMBA Trail Crew	24 IMBA Trail Crew Mt Lowe Hist – Echo Mtn Picnic
25 IMBA Trail Crew	26	27	28	29	30	31 Chainsaw Training JPL Trailbuilders Strawberry Peak Angeles Mtn Bike & CORBA San Gabriel Trailbuilders Haramokngna Opening

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.

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

WELCOME A NEW VOLUNTEER GROUP !

William S Hart UHSD (Trail Crew 5130) of Santa Clarita will begin startup operations March 7th, 2007 with an initial crew of six students. Work will take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-7 pm on an adopted 8.7 mile stretch of the PCT from Indian Canyon Trailhead to Indian Canyon Trailhead. Initial trail survey revealed moderate tread and brushing needs throughout the entire length.

For more information on how you can help contact: Kevin Sarkissian at ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org

WHAT IS EASY TO START AND HARD TO STOP?

Angeles National Forest Trivia



Fires are easy to start and hard to stop and this summer may become a easy year to start fires.

Why?

So far this rain year, which began in July 1, 2006 recorded a total rainfall of only 2 inches to this date. Normal rainfall would be 10 inches of rainfall. That would mean eclipsing the rain year of 2001-02, when a mere 4.42 inches was recorded. The normal yearly amount is a little more than 15 inches.

Prevention!

If you are going to use any powered equipment Call 661-723-2752 and check fire activity levels.

Pick the area that is closest to your work location and use that activity level.

Little Tujunga	Camp 9	New hall
Big pines	Clear Creek	Chilao
Mill Creek	Valyermo	Warm Springs
Oak flat	Tanbark	

Activity levels of 3 and 4 means do not use powered equipment after 1300. An Activity level 5 means do not use any powered equipment anytime.

If you find any inactive campfires outside campgrounds destroy them and report them to Howard. If you find any active campfires outside campgrounds, contact dispatch.

Remind anyone smoking to leave no butts in the forest.

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 Freelantropy <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!

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trailkeepers

Mark Gage mrgy33@hotmail.com

Hikers and Bikers working together on trails.

We work on the trails almost every Saturday.

Our focus trails are Lower Sam Merrill and Castle Canyon.

The Audubon Center at Debs Park

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

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, & back-packing feel free to follow the above linking.

March 17 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! Celebrate St. Patty's Day by wearing green in the canyons.

To reserve your place, call 626-335-1251



BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW LADIES SAWING WOOD

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

Tell a friend!!! **March 10**

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!

Big Santa Anita Firesafe Council

Looking for volunteers to assist in fuel hazard reduction, trail maintenance and visitor information in the Big Santa Anita Canyon.

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

<http://www.corbamtb.com>

March 23-25 The IMBA Trail Crew will be coming to the Angeles Forest to work on the Middle Sam Merrill trail. There will be a slide show on Friday 3/23 in Pasadena. Then on Saturday 3/24 there will be a classroom session in the morning and then trail maintenance on the Middle Merrill in the afternoon. On Sunday 3/25 there will be a ride. Check back later for more details.

March 24 For those of you in Santa Monica Mountains we will be working on the trail off of Reino Road in Thousand Oaks that we started building with the IMBA Trail Crew in 2005. This will be a joint trail work day with the SMMTC.

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.

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

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center www.haramokngna.org
626-445-8975

March 31 Spring Equinox

HABITAT WORKS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (HABITAT WORKS)

Kim Clark 818-353-4653
Tom Persons 310-412-4986

Dear Friends,

Do you want to do something in nature with your own hands to make things better, and see results at the end of the day?

Do you want to explore beautiful, remote areas of Southern California, discover artifacts and see track & sign of abundant wildlife everywhere?

Do you want to meet other intrepid volunteers involved in meaningful stewardship in our own back yard?

We've got some awesome projects in the works!
3/3/07 Arroyo Toad Conservation, Angeles NF
3/18/07 Tree Planting, Mt. Pacifico, Angeles NF

Get details on our calendar page:
<http://www.habitatwork.org/calendar.htm>

Join One Today

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

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

<http://www.crystallake.name/>

Ben White bwootenwhite@hotmail.com
626-303-1078

March 17 and 31

We'll work on the foot bridge at the Environmental Education Center at Rincon in San Gabriel Canyon and the North Fork access trail also in San Gabriel Canyon. With enough volunteers we'll keep both projects going at the same time. Details as to what to bring are on our website at :

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

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

Emworks@verizon.net

Mar 3rd Retrieve and remount "Granite gate" locating tube on Mt lowe west trail.

March 24 Echo mountain railfan picnic

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

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.jplreclclubs.caltech.edu/hiking/>

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)

626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

March 10, Strawberry Peak Trail

March 31, 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:

For our 10 February hike we had planned to go from Millard campground to Brown Mountain via Dawn Mine. Major rain with potential flash floods was forecast and the sky look dark, so we decided to not hike up the canyon, but to walk up the Brown Mountain fire road to the Ken Burton trail head, and from there up the west side of Brown Mountain. The clouds disappeared and the Sun came out soon after we started - so much for the forecast. The long 5 miles to the end of the fire road is popular with bikers, but the two hours walk is rewarded by panoramic views of mountains from Mt. Luken to Strawberry peak towering over the Arroyo (Oakwild) more than 1000 ft below the road. From the end of the fire road we followed the trail (actually footprints, there is no trail) almost straight up the ridge. It is about 2 miles and another 1300 ft elevation gain (mostly in the first mile) to the top, with wonderful panoramic views and almost 2 hours. In the attached panoramic view the top of the Ken Burton trail is visible in the lower left, Strawberry peak is in the upper right. We ran into three other hikers, one lone hiker who had come down from HW2 via Oakwilde campground and up the Ken Burton trail, and a couple at the top, who had come from Switzer Campground via Bear Canyon. I am not sure which ascent was the easiest. We returned the way we came. The forecast heavy rain came the next day.

The next hike, always the second Saturday of the month, is March 10, 2007.

Hope to see you there.

George Aumann

photo by George Aumann



Training on-line

Trail-related training and education

www.AmericanTrails.org

American Trails is the only national, nonprofit organization working on behalf of all trail interests, including hiking, bicycling, mountain biking, horseback riding, water trails, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, trail motorcycling, ATVs, snowmobiling and four-wheeling. American Trails members want to create and protect America's network of interconnected trails. We support local, regional, and long-distance trails and greenways, whether they be in backcountry, rural or urban areas. Our goal is to support America's trails by finding common ground and promoting cooperation among all trail interests. We're involved in everything from training trails advocates to providing increased trail opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

www.NTTP.net

National Trails Training Partnership (NTTP) is an alliance of Federal agencies, training providers, nationwide supporters, professional contractors, and providers of products and services..

PCTA trail work

photo by Kevin Corcoran,PCTA



IMBA Trail Work Program & Work Day

Any interested users welcomed. Be a part of the solution!

IMBA Presentation

 **Friday, March 23th 6pm**
Pasadena Cyclery, 1670 Walnut St.
SPKAK

IMBA Trail Building School

 **Saturday, March 24th 8am-12pm**
Loma Alta Park, 3330 Lincoln Ave
North of Loma Alta (Car pool to site)
SPKAK

TRAIL WORK

 **Saturday, March 24th Afternoon**
4 miles above Cobb Estate on Merrill Trail
ONLY

BIKE RIDE

 **Sunday, March 25th (time TBD)**
Merrill Trail - Meet at Lake & Loma Alta

FOR MORE INFO & PRE-REGISTER:
818-899-1900 x229
Howard Okamoto - hokamoto@fs.fed.us

SPONSORED BY:



PROFESSIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION

A note from Christopher P Fabbro

“Hello Forest Vols!

Thanks for your energy and support during my assignment to Trails. Your enthusiasm and commitment have been inspiring.

I'll be back in the Patrol 16 position out of Chilao starting this spring, so I won't be far. Don't be a stranger...I'm all over the High Country and look forward to seeing you. I will still be involved in Trails as time allows, so you may see me at meetings as well as out in the field.



Please save Saturday May 19 for our next volunteer potluck. High Country location to be announced in the next newsletter...it will be either Chilao or Buckhorn. Last autumn's event was a great time to recharge, and this May's will help us kick off the summer season. Looking forward to seeing you then! Chris

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



Find a illegal farm in the Angeles?

First leave the area immediately

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

Then 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: _____
