



VOLUNTEER TODAY



Dedicate Yourself to Caring for the Land and Serving the People

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

No VISITORS

No VISITORS

Los Angeles River Ranger District Volunteer Newsletter Nov/Dec 2007 Vol. 5 Issue 11

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

At our October Volunteer Meeting, a surprise guest was in attendance: Gary Hilliard. Gary is looking good and everyone present was very appreciative that he was able to attend the meeting. Gary, best wishes on your continued recovery.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following individuals for contributing 100 volunteer hours from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007, each individual will receive a complimentary Administrative/Annual Pass. If you've contributed 100 volunteer hours and would like to join this group, please contact me.

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Aohari, Saeed | Hilliard, Gary | Moore, Robert |
| Aumann, George | Hilliard, Pam | Nyerges, Richard |
| Bailey, Pam | Hoar, Kevin | Person, Tom |
| Benam, Brad | Hojjati, Hoss | Pressnall, Dolores |
| Chamley, Tina | Horton, John | Reilly, Kathie |
| Clark, Kim | Hosley, Richard | Russell, Jack |
| David, Ray | Hutton, Guy | Sarkissian, Kevin |
| DeGange, JD | Kozinc, Gabor | Spree, Christine |
| Dwyer, Tom | Kuhn, Guy | Tanner, Terry |
| Dwyer, Patricia | Ledford, David | Thomas, Jeanne |
| Fithian, Henry | Makshanoff, Mike | Treadway, Danny |
| Gage, Mark | Marcroft, Brian | Whited, Lyle |
| Hillbruner, Tony | McGuire, Robin & Mike | |

As a result of extreme fire activity, and to protect public health and safety, Angeles National Forest officials implemented a forest closure, effective October 23, 2007. The closure will last until the extreme conditions subside. If you're planning a Volunteer event, check with your local Forest Service contact regarding the status of this closure since it is being reevaluated on a weekly basis.

This past month, Southern California experienced dramatic Santa Ana wind conditions, large destructive fires and unbelievable transportation events (ie Interstate 5 truck tunnel accident etc), hopefully you weren't adversely impacted by these events. **BE SAFE, HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON** and see you next year.

Have you accumulated 500 volunteer hours since January 1, 2007? If you have accumulated 500 volunteer hours, please let me know so that we can issue you an America the Beautiful – Interagency Annual Pass.

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

Nov/Dec Calendar..... pg 2-3

Safety notes pg 4

The next LARRD Volunteer meeting... pg 4

The Angeles is closed, but pg 5

Volunteer Group News pg 5 - 9

A hike to the "Bridge to Nowhere" George Aumann pg 10

Angeles Forest General information about the WAG bag pg 10

Journey into the past pg 11

Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.

Los Angeles River Ranger District

Volunteer Events Calander

November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 ANFFLA PARTY Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour Community Hiking Club San Gabriel Trailbuilders Habitat works MT Lowe OUTING
4 Habitat works	5	6	7 CTUC MTG	8	9	10 Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour CORBA OUTING Wednesday hiking outing MT Lowe OUTING
11 VETERANS DAY	12	13	14 CTUC Monthly Mtg PCTA OUTING Bear Cny Chantry flats hike	15 PCTA OUTING	16	17 JPL Trailbuilders Mt Lowe Hist San Gabriel Trailbuilders Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour Bear Cyn Trail Mtnc Habitat works Community Hiking Club
18 Blight Busters Trail Crew Habitat works	19	20	21	22 THANKS GIVING	23	24 Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour Habitat works
25 Habitat works	26	27	28			

Los Angeles River Ranger District

Volunteer Events Calander

December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1				1 Bear Cny hike Mt Lowe OUTING Habitat works Community Hiking Club San Gabriel Trailbuilder
2 Habitat works	3	4	5	6	7	8 JPL Trailbuilders CORBA OUTING
9	10	11	12 Bear Cny Chantry flats hike	13	14 Community Hiking Club	15 Bear Cyn Trail Mtn San Gabriel Trailbuilder Habitat works
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29 JPL Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club Habitat works
30 Habitat works	31					

Graffiti Hot line

County of Los Angeles Public Works
Department Graffiti Hotline:
1-800-675-4357, option 2
to report any graffiti along County
maintained roads (Tujunga Canyon Roads,
Angeles Forest Highway etc).

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

**NOTE: The next Los Angeles
River Ranger District volunteer
meeting is January 16, 2008**

Angeles National Forest

Safety Note:

As an operator of a backroads vehicle, you may view driving as simply a way of getting from Point A to Point B to do your job. But it is critical that you recognize and are prepared to handle the many hazards you may encounter along the way. During your daily driving activities, you may go from operating on multiple-lane freeways to steep mountain one-lane roads with turnouts. Varied altitude driving also means that, on any given day of the year, you may experience all types of weather conditions. So it is important to develop good operating habits that ensure immediate and appropriate adjustments to these conditions. And you must do this while you present a professional image to the public.

Wild Forests: Good for Business and Recreation

<http://www.ourforests.org/recreation/>

Each year nearly 150 million Americans enjoy the outdoors by hiking, rock climbing, bird-watching, mountain biking, skiing, snowshoeing, paddling and fishing. Our national forests draw ever-increasing numbers of visitors because they provide outdoor recreation seekers a diversity of landscapes in which to pursue their outdoor passions.

A report by the Outdoor Industry Association documented a shift in the mindset of outdoor recreation participants from being motivated by adventure to seeking peace and solitude. Fortunately, our national forests offer outdoor enthusiasts both, especially the roadless areas within these forests.

The National Forest System shelters the remaining 58.5 million acres of inventoried roadless areas. These last wild forests protect our water, sustain our wildlife and guarantee that current and future generations will have access to some of America's most pristine outdoor playgrounds.

Wild Forests are Good for BusinessThe Active Outdoor Recreation Economy by the Outdoor Industry Foundation, estimates the \$730 billion economic contribution of active outdoor recreation (bicycling, camping, fishing, hunting, paddling, snow sports, wildlife viewing, trail-running, hiking and climbing) to the US economy. Additionally, outdoor recreation supports nearly 6.5 million jobs, generates \$88 billion in annual state and national tax revenue and generates \$289 billion annually in retail sales and services across the U.S. The report demonstrates the active outdoor recreation is more than just Big Fun — it is a huge economic driver throughout the United States. The report is more than just a tally of industry gear sales. It estimates travel-related expenditures, jobs and taxes generated, and includes a regional breakout of active outdoor recreation impacts on regional economies.

Borrow a Trainer

Are you interested in introducing club members or colleagues to Tread Lightly!'s important message? Invite a Tread Trainer to speak at your next club meeting or event. Visit the Tread Trainer section of the Tread Lightly! Website to locate a trainer near you or email treadtrainer@treadlightly.org

THE ANGELES IS CLOSED, BUT.....

The Angeles may be closed for now to visitors, but there is still work to be done. Contact Howard on what needs to be done in the Angeles.



Blight Busters Trail Crew removing Graffiti



Habitat Works removing invasive plants



Bear Canyon Trail Crew removing a downed tree with a crosscut saw

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

●November 3. Year-End Party.

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.

ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL (AMBP) mmcguirepools@cs.com

Hi! hope this finds you and yours well. Our latest event was on September 8th and 9th. We lead and arranged a Eagle Scout Project on the Silver Macasin trail. It was a great day, we had 20 plus eagle scouts and some parents to do trail work and learn proper use of tools and etc, turned out to be a big success and all had a great time.

The Silver Macasin trail from 3 points down is our adopted trail for the last 3yrs and if I do say so myself its' looking great. Chain sawed a few tree's and lots of brushing and rock work.

We thank once again all the great volunteers that help me with the 2007 california trails day event at Chantry. and how all the trails are looking great thanks to all the volunteers.

Thank you

Mike and Robin Mcguire

Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group (ACTRWG)

www.altadenatrails.org 626-797-7243

"Group has begun discussion on long-term Altadena trail stewardship & oversight role." If interested attend meeting on 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm at Altadena Community Center.

Altadena Foothills Conservancy

Established to preserve and restore natural open spaces and associated trails and historic structures in the environs of Altadena.

www.altadenafoothills.org

nsteele@altadenafoothills.org

Alpine Training Services

<http://www.atsenviroaction.com>

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, & mountaineering, please visit our website at www.alpinets.com.

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

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

(BCTC) <http://www.outdoorsclub.org/>

Richard 626-285-0962

- Nov 14 chantry flats hike
- Nov 17 Bear Canyon
- Dec 1 Bear Canyon hike
- Dec 12 chantry flats hike
- DEC 15 Bear Canyon

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!

Come on out and enjoy a mid-week hike up the Chantry Flats Fire Road starting @ 5:45pm. The hike is approximately 7 miles round trip with about a 1,400' gain in elevation.

Join One Today

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Beyond Basecamp

Frank Gallegos frank@beyondbasecamp.com

<http://beyondbasecamp.com/volunteer.html>

Needs volunteers to help in the maintenance of Valley Forge, West Fork and Devore Trail Camps

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.

Big Santa Anita Firesafe Council

cafiresafe@sbcglobal.net

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

Blight Busters Trail Crew

Tired of seeing Graffiti on your favorite trails? Then you should take action and join Danny in graffiti removal.

●NOV 18 Gabrielino trail next to JPL

Danny Treadway

E-MAIL : dayhiker86@yahoo.com

Graffiti Removal & Trail Clean Up.

For Information go to www.outdoorsclub.org.

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC)

Meeting - 5 p.m. meeting (3rd Wednesday)

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.

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center

www.haramokngna.org 626-445-8975

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

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists

Association (CORBA)

<http://www.corbamtb.com>

● Nov 10 ● Dec 8

Did you know that due to budget cutbacks almost all trail maintenance is currently being completed by volunteers? CORBA members have given thousands of hours to the mountains by building new trails and maintaining existing ones.

Although the work can be exhausting, it is a rewarding feeling to ride a trail you've helped build and or maintain.

You do not have to be a CORBA member or even a Mountain bike rider to join us. Everyone is welcome. No experience is required.

Community Hiking Club

24639 Arch Street

Newhall, CA 91321

661-607-0339

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel

zuliebear@aol.com

communityhikingclub.org

Every Saturday, Placerita Nature Center leads Family Nature Walks at 11 AM and Animal Presentations at 1 PM.

www.placerita.org

Join One Today VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Equestrian Trails, Inc.

A non-profit organization dedicated to the Acquisition and Preservation of Trails, Good Horsemanship, and Equine Legislation.

For event information and helpful tips for horse owners.

<http://www.etinational.com/>

HABITAT WORKS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Kim Clark 818-353-4653

Tom Persons 310-412-4986

Get details on our calendar page:

<http://www.habitatwork.org/calendar.htm>

- Nov. 3 & 4 Arroyo Toad Habitat Conservation
Hardluck CG, Los Padres NF
- Nov. 17 or 24, (date TBA) 2007
Mountain Yellow-legged Frog Habitat
Angeles NF
- Dec. 1 Arroyo Toad Conservation
Sweet Clover Removal
Upper Big Tujunga, Angeles NF
- Dec. 2 Arroyo Toad Conservation
Sweet Clover Removal
Little Rock Dam, Angeles NF
- Dec. 15 WIND WOLVES PRESERVE
- Dec. 29/30 RUBIO CANYON

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

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

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)

626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

● Nov 17 ● Dec 8 ● Dec 29

Again, where we work depends upon how hot the weather is. We can continue working the Colby Canyon Trail or go higher up and work Mt Lowe East or West.

Mt Disappointment 50K/50M

www.mtdisappointment50k.com

Gary Hilliard and/or Gabor Kozinc

Email: ghilliard@ladpw.org or

gary@mtdisappointment50k.com

Outward Bound – Los Angeles

<http://www.obainc.org> On September 1, 2007,

Outward Bound officially introduced its newest Urban Center, Outward Bound Los Angeles Formerly known as Outward Bound Adventures, a separate entity, this Urban Center will continue to offer experiential learning opportunities to the Los Angeles community.

A new website with a complete calendar of events is currently under construction. In the meantime, feel free to contact OBLA directly for up-to-date program information.

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

Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Committee

Ruthann Levison, Co-Chair on SCVTAC

(Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Cmte). We are in need of a good multi use connector trail from our Robinson Ranch Trail (in Sand Canyon) to the Pacific Crest Trail to the east of our community.

The Robinson Ranch trail is probably our best bet to connect to, since it is already on the ground. That trail dead ends at the southeastern edge of the Robinson Ranch Golf Course property slightly north of Live Oak Springs Canyon Road If you’re interested in assisting, please contact Ruthann Levison, 661-252-1360

VOLUNTEER NEWS

SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

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

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

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

We are continuing to work on river access trails in the North and East Forks of the San Gabriel River. We will also continue restoring trails in the Crystal Lake basin. We work on the first, third, and fifth, Saturday of each month.

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>

- Nov 3/ Nov 10, OUTING
- Dec 1, Public Excursion to Mt. Lowe

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919
Emworks@verizon.net

Wednesday Hiking and Granada

- Nov 10 outing

We're Korean-Americans, who love working in the National Forest. We work the 3rd Saturday of each month on maintaining the Sunset Ridge Trail, 12W18.

If you would like to join us or have any questions, please contact Ted Kim at infocus804@yahoo.com

William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF Crew 5130

What's happening at William S Hart UHSD:

Work will continue on an adopted 8.7 mile stretch of the PCT from the Indian Canyon Trailhead (Soledad Canyon) to North Fork Station on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays for the duration of the fall.

Kevin Sarkissian at ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org

Monrovia Canyon Park

http://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

TreePeople <http://treepeople.org/>

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 Kristina Clark.

Mt. Wilson Observatory

<http://www.mwoa.org/tour.html>

The Observatory grounds and Skyline Park are open to the public seven days a week from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm during the months of April through November, although special conditions may sometimes cause closures or restrict access. See our website for special announcements.

Mount Wilson Observatory Association (MWOA)
PO Box 70076
Pasadena, CA 91117-7076

Is a volunteer organization supporting the Mount Wilson Observatory with membership is open to all interested persons.

The Bridge to Nowhere Hike

By George Aumann

On Saturday 20 October 2007 the Angeles Forest Fire Lookout Volunteers organized a hike to the Bridge to Nowhere. The bridge was constructed in 1936 and was left standing after the great flood in 1938 washed out almost the entire paved road connecting it to HW39. Following what little is left of the old pavement, but mostly along the San Gabriel river bed, it is only 4.5 miles one way, with hardly any elevation gain, but it still took us four hours, slowed down by repeated crossings of the San Gabriel river. There was more water than we expected after



this long dry season. Three of the four crossing turns out to be wet, 6" of water, if one picked ones way carefully. With some squinting we were able to convince ourselves that the white quartz veins in the rock towering above the trail near the junction of the Alison Gulch trail were indeed the Swan Rock indicated on the map. On the way in we were passed by a large group of young people rushing to the bridge to do bungee jumping. The swan dive shown in the attached picture was the best bungee jump I have ever witnessed. We were back at the trailhead shortly after 5 pm, eager to get out of our wet boots.

General Information “More about the WAG BAG”

Tread lightly and leave no trace of your passing--this single-use, human waste bag kit helps keep the wilderness clean for all to enjoy.

- At REI stores or <http://www.rei.com/>

Phillips Environmental WAG Bags - Package of 12 \$28.00 Item 662978

Phillips Environmental Wag Bag- Package of 1 \$2.75 Item 692303

- Each kit contains a WAG™ waste bag, zip-close storage bag, toilet paper and hand sanitizer
- Disposal bags contain environmentally friendly gelling agent that quickly turns waste into a stable gel for easy transport and safe disposal
- Odor neutralizer eliminates unpleasant odors; decay catalyst initiates decomposition
- Landfill-approved WAG Bags can be disposed of in trash with regular garbage
- Recommended by the Leave No Trace program in conjunction with the National Forest Service
- Made in USA.

Sponsored by:

**THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST
AND
MT. LOWE COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER GROUP
Website: www.mtlowe.net**



December 1, 2007

Join us for a journey to the past to what once was called

“America’s Most Scenic Mountain Trolley Trip”

We will travel along the old railroad route beginning at the gate to the Forest Road (top of Chaney Trail Rd.) to THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, to DAWN STATION, HORSESHOE CURVE, CIRCULAR BRIDGE, GRANITE GATE AND THE TAVERN.

- At the Tavern Site: Displays, food, souvenirs....
- We have a limit of 75 total people that can attend based on Forest rules.
- Sign up asap. ...email or call for reservations.

Tell me the number of tickets that are needed along with names and give me your phone number.

If you are bringing a vehicle let me know the total number of occupants that your vehicle can carry.

Fee is \$2.00 per person. Pick up tickets on the morning of the event.

INFORMATION / TICKETS Email [Brian Marcroft](mailto:Brian.Marcroft@nps.gov) or telephone: (562) 868-8919

We will need the use of high occupancy vehicles (5 or more passengers) Good road clearance a must!

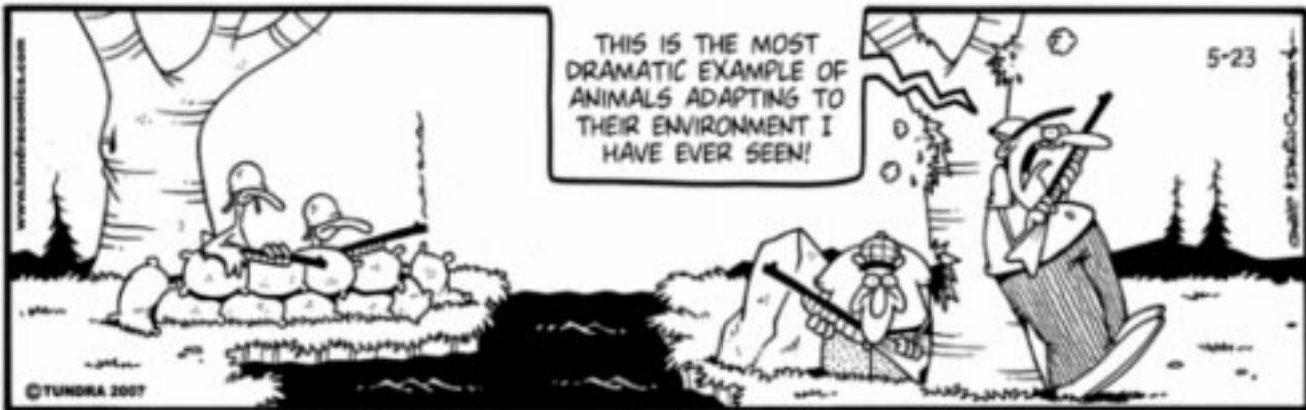
- **MEET AT THE NORTH END OF LAKE AVE. IN ALTADENA 7:30 AM (Lake & Loma Alta)**
- **We will organize carpools - DEPART AT 8 AM**
- **Arrive at Tavern site at 8:45 AM**
- **Depart from Tavern at 12:00 NOON**
- **Return to Lake Ave. at 12:45 PM**
- **As is always the case, any event in the National Forest is subject to cancellation due to safety and/or weather conditions. If there is a cancellation you will be contacted before the event.**

NOTE: We will be behind a locked gate on a restricted road. Those entering will be required to stay with the group the entire time of the event.

(8 AM to 1 PM)

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter Los Angeles Times May 23, 2007 email: info@tundracomics.com



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: _____