



# 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 2008 Vol. 6 Issue 1

## GREETINGS

### VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

Happy New Year!!!!!!!

Hope you had a wonderful holiday season.

I attended a Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Operations Conference. The folks from Washington Trails Association have implemented a unique recognition/safety program. All new participants are issued an Orange hardhat, assistant Trailboss is issued a Green hardhat and Trailboss is issued a Blue hardhat. This program helps identify skill levels of participants, reinforces the chain of command and contributes to a strong safety message.

On December 7, 2007, I saw Gary Hilliard at Los Angeles River Ranger District Office, he said that he's overcome a plateau in his recovery and is feeling a lot better since he's been able to get around and do some work.

Pasadena Audubon Society has revamped the Cobb Estate Nature Trail, 12W15 by installing 6 new interpretative signs that highlight the unique points of interest at each of the designated location.

**Southern California Trails Coalition:**

“Our mission is to increase trail community effectiveness by working together to facilitate cooperation between different trail users, improve communication on regional trail issues, optimized sharing of resources, promote safety and trail etiquette, encourage sustainable trail practices, advocate universal trail access, support volunteerism, provide training opportunities, and support educational and outreach programs.”

If interested, consider attending the January 25 meeting at Cleveland NF, Trabuco Ranger District, 1147 East Sixth Street, Corona, CA 92879 from 0930 - 1230. If you have any questions, please contact Debra Clarke - Wilderness / Trails Manager at (951) 736-1811 x 3227 or email [drclarke@fs.fed.us](mailto:drclarke@fs.fed.us)

Forest Visitors are very appreciative of the work that you have done in providing a quality recreation experience.

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](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

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**Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.**

**Los Angeles River Ranger District  
Volunteer Events Calander  
January 2008**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1		1 <u>NEW YEAR'S DAY</u>	2	3	4	5 Mt Lowe Hist San Gabriel Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club
6 Habitat Works	7	8	9	10	11	12 Habitat Works Wednesday Hiking Club
13 Habitat Works	14 <u>MARTIN LUTHER KING'S</u>	15	16 CTUC Monthly Mtg  LARRD Monthly Volunteer Mtg	17	18	19 Mt Lowe Hist Bear Cyn Trail Mtnc JPL Trailbuilders VHC WLACC BSA Trail Boss Training San Gabriel Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club
20 VHC WLACC BSA Trail Boss Training	21	22	23	24	25	26 Habitat Works Community Hiking Club
27 Habitat Works	28	29	30	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>

## Fire Restrictions Relaxed for Angeles National Forest

ARCADIA, Calif. – Recent rains and cooler temperatures are prompting Forest officials to lift restrictions on campfires, charcoal barbecues and smoking. Effective Thursday, December 20, these activities will once again be allowed in the Angeles National Forest.

As is the case under normal conditions, campfires and charcoal barbecues are restricted to designated fire rings and grills in developed recreation sites only. “Know Before You Go,” by checking locally on other conditions or restrictions which may apply.

Lifting of the restrictions comes as the fire danger level has been lowered from “Extreme (level 5)” to “High (level 3).” A variety of factors determine the level, including the moisture in vegetation, weather conditions and firefighting equipment and personnel needs due to regional and national fire activity.

## General Information

### What was Smokey's Bear real name?

Smokey's correct, full name is Smokey Bear. In the popular song "Smokey The Bear" written in 1952 by Steve Nelson and Jack Rollins a "the" was added to his name to keep the song's rhythm. This small change has caused confusion among Smokey fans ever since.

## Angeles National Forest

### Safety Note: Winter Driving Hazards

- Before you venture out, make sure you know and understand the hazards and risks of all types of weather conditions, especially ice, snow and fog.
- Always reduce your speed on slippery surfaces.
- Avoid harsh braking and acceleration.
- Always increase the gap between you and the vehicle in front in poor conditions. Your tire grip will not be as good and it will take longer to brake.
- Allow up to TEN TIMES the normal distance for braking, especially on motorways.
- In snow, stop frequently to clean the glass area, the wheel arches, the lights and number plates.



## ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

## 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) [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

## 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](http://www.altadenafoothills.org)

[nsteele@altadenafoothills.org](mailto: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](http://www.alpinets.com).

## 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

## BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

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

Richard 626-285-0962

### ●Jan 19 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!

## Beyond Basecamp

Frank Gallegos [frank@beyondbasecamp.com](mailto: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

See Page 8 for "Trail Boss"

Training Council provides training opportunities for all interested individuals. For more information: [www.boyscoutsla.org](http://www.boyscoutsla.org) click H.A.T.

## Big Santa Anita Firesafe Council

[cafiresafe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cafiresafe@sbcglobal.net)

Looking for volunteers to assist in fuel hazard reduction, trail maintenance and visitor information in 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.

**Danny Treadway**

**E-MAIL : [dayhiker86@yahoo.com](mailto:dayhiker86@yahoo.com)**

**Graffiti Removal & Trail Clean Up.**

**For Information go to [www.outdoorsclub.org](http://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](http://www.ctuc.info).

**Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists**

Association (CORBA)

<http://www.corbamt.com>

Telephone (818) 773-3555

[trailwork@corbamt.com](mailto:trailwork@corbamt.com)

Are you interested in reestablishing the Barley Flat Trail, 11W09? We'll be working with the Forest Service in rerouting a segment of this trail to avoid T&E critical habitat this year.

**Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center**

[www.haramokngna.org](http://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](mailto:maujds@earthlink.net)

**Community Hiking Club**

661-259-2743

email: [zuliebear@aol.com](mailto:zuliebear@aol.com).

**Dianne Erskine Hellrigel**

Trail Work opportunities are as follows: Placerita Nature Center, 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month from 8-12-Meet behind the Nature Center by Tool Shed at 8:00. Additional opportunities in Forest Service areas and State Parks on Saturdays and Wednesdays by arrangement with Dianne.

●JAN 5-Pico Canyon to Odeen #1 –Meet at Mentryville at 8:30. This is an 8 mile hike RT with some elevation gain.

●JAN 19-Placerita Canyon Trail to the Waterfall-Today begins the new Season's session! We will meet our new members on the steps of the Placerita Nature Center between 8 and 8:30 for sign ins, and leave for the hike promptly at 8:30. Please bring water. We will be done before lunch. RT is 5 miles.

●JAN 26-Save the Condors Stewardship Event-Magic Mountain Micro-trash clean up. This is a micro-trash clean up (broken glass, bottle caps, etc.), litter and major dumping clean up as well. Condors have been known to eat glass chards and also feed them to their young, resulting in their death. This clean up will be a major contribution to the environment, and especially to the well being of the Condors. Please help!!! 9-3:00 at the Intersection of Sand Canyon and Santa Clara Divide Road. (We will depart at 9, so be there a few minutes early) Bring water, lunch, and work gloves. (You are not obligated to stay the entire time)

**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/>

## Join One Today VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

### 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>

- Jan. 6  
Native Plant Conservation  
Rubio Canyon, Angeles NF
- Jan. 12/13  
Wildlands Conservation
- Jan. 26/27  
Arroyo Toad Habitat Conservation  
Hardluck, Los Padres NF

### JPL TRAILBUILDERS

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

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)  
626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

● Jan 19  
We will continue maintenance work on the Colby Canyon Trail. We reached the halfway point, so we will drive up to Josephine Saddle and work down the trail, eventually reaching where we left off coming up the Trail. There is more brush removal work near the top.

Mt Disappointment 50K/50M  
[www.mtdisappointment50K.com](http://www.mtdisappointment50K.com)  
Gary Hilliard and/or Gabor Kozinc  
Email: [ghilliard@ladpw.org](mailto:ghilliard@ladpw.org) or  
[gary@mtdisappointment50k.com](mailto:gary@mtdisappointment50k.com)

### Outward Bound – Los Angeles

<http://www.obainc.org>

Trail Crew is working Gabrielino National Recreation Trail, 11W14 from Gould Mesa Trail Camp to Bear Canyon Trail.

Phone: 626-564-0844

E-mail: [obainc.sbcglobal.net](mailto:obainc.sbcglobal.net)

### Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA)

Spend 2-8 days hiking or horseback riding along the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

Meals provided

Check out PCTA Service Projects at  
[www.PCTA.org](http://www.PCTA.org)

You'll be rewarded with daily exercise, great food, develop unforgettable memories, trail maintenance skills and long lasting friendships.

For additional information: ·

Suzanne Wilson 'Fannypack'

951-492-9836 [swilson@pcta.org](mailto: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

### SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

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

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

Ben White [bwootenwhite@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

# VOLUNTEER NEWS

## SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Annual December Trip to the Alpine Tavern  
Over 70 people showed up despite the cold weather. It was a great time, and thank you all for coming to our annual event. The cold weather made the hot dogs, pie, and hot chocolate all the more tasty

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

## Wednesday Hiking and Granada

### ● Jan 12 outing

We're Korean-Americans, who love working in the National Forest. We work the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:infocus804@yahoo.com)

## TreePeople <http://treepeople.org/>

TreePeople mission is to inspire the people of Los Angeles to take personal responsibility for their 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) Kristina Clark.

## William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF Crew 5130

What's happening at William S Hart UHSD:

Jonathan Stevens, who is the head of National Scenic Trails for the Forest Service in Washington D.C., visited the Hart District's Career Visions trail crew during a recent visit to Southern California. He and officials from the Pacific Crest Trail visited the work crew to demonstrate the work that is being done to maintain area trails through such programs as the career-oriented school team.

The Hart District team has adopted a seven-mile portion of the Pacific Crest Trail, and their efforts were featured in an article in the September issue of "Pacific Crest Trail Communicator" magazine. Students in the program learn trail skills as well as leadership development.

Kevin Sarkissian at [ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org](mailto:ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org)



## Mt. Wilson Observatory Association (MWOA)

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

PO Box 70076

Pasadena, CA 91117-7076

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

## Monrovia Canyon Park

[http://ci.monrovia.ca.us/city\\_hall/public\\_works/canyon\\_park/canyon\\_park.htm](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



## **HAT Training 2008**

### **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 or their approved Trail Boss Trainer.**

#### **Requirements:**

**Complete 4 days of 6 hours each in training exercises with the Trail Boss Program.  
(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, Work clothes.**

#### **When:**

**DATE: Jan. 19-20, 2008**

**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](mailto:bigaub@sbcglobal.net)**

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

**TUNDRA** by Chad Carpenter    Los Angeles Times Nov 24, 2007    email: [info@tundracomics.com](mailto:info@tundracomics.com)



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