



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 Aug 2008 Vol. 6

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE

“The Forest Service is about *sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.*”
Chief Abigail Kimbell, January 2008

As natural disasters (fires, floods, earthquakes etc) and economics (higher gas prices, bank takeovers etc) dominate the news, you’ve continued providing a quality recreation experience for Angeles National Forest visitors. Your time and effort are being recognized by these individuals either through informal comments or in their behavior (leaving a clean site). Some examples of you making a difference – Assistance in mapping Charlton Flat Picnic Area infrastructure in order to create the Charlton Flat Picnic Area Recreation Site Improvement Demolition Plan, Developed Recreation Site Rehabilitation (ie Hoeges Trail Camp etc), Trail Maintenance (ie Gabrielino National Recreation Trail etc) and Information/Education (ie Chantry Flat Host Program etc). Because of your contribution, we’ve been able to direct funds and personnel to other projects: infrastructure improvement (ie Bear Canyon Trail Camp molder privy etc), Signage (ie trail direction signs etc), Information/Education (ie Mt Lowe Historic Site Interpretative Plan etc) rather than allocating these same resources to resolve Visitor discontent in areas that you’ve made a difference.

With Northern California experiencing high fire activity, some areas of the Angeles National Forest closed because of last years fires and with high gas prices, we’re noticing a change in Los Angeles River Ranger District visitor use. Rather than driving long distance for recreating, people are recreating closer to home therefore we’re experiencing higher visitor use than normal. Remember to practice Situational Awareness (awareness of your surrounding environment) when making contact with these visitors, some of them will require your assistance because of lack of knowledge of the Forest environment (ie lost, injured etc) while others may present a safety concern (ie illegal activity).

I’m working on an October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009 Calendar of Events, so if you have any event you wish to highlight, please provide the name, date, time and contact individual for your event by August 15th.

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

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Success comes
in cans; failure
comes in cant's.

Los Angeles River Ranger District

AUGUST 2008

Volunteer Events Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Community Hiking Club Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour San Gabriel Trailbuilders
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 <i>MONROVIA CANYON PARK</i> Wednesday Hiking Club Community Hiking Club <u>HARAMOKNGNA</u> Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour JPL TRAILBUILDERS Mt Disappointment 50K/50M
10	11	12	13 CTUC Monthly Mtg <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Leave No Trace</div>	14	15 <u>HARAMOKNGNA</u>	16 AC100 San Gabriel Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club <u>HARAMOKNGNA</u> Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour
17 AC100 <u>HARAMOKNGNA</u>	18	19	20	21	22	23 Mt Wilson Observatory Guided Tour Community Hiking Club
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 AC100 JPL TRAILBUILDERS San Gabriel Trailbuilders Community Hiking Club Habitat Works
31 AC100 Habitat Works						

NOTE: Leave No Trace Trainer Course Sept 13/14
By the Verdugo Hills BSA High Adventure Team.
Marlene Lugg, (818) – 882-4526

Annual Fire Safety Checklist

TO BE DONE BEFORE A FIRE!

- Ø Thin trees and brush properly within the defensible space.
 - Ø Remove trash and debris from the defensible space.
 - Ø Remove any trees growing through the porch.
 - Ø Clear roof and gutters of leaves and debris.
 - Ø Remove branches overhanging chimney and roof.
 - Ø Stack firewood uphill or on a contour away from the home.
 - Ø Use noncombustible roof materials.
 - Ø Place shutters, fire curtains or heavy drapes on windows.
 - Ø Place screens on foundation and eave vents.
 - Ø Enclose sides of stilt foundations and decks.
 - Ø Use a chimney screen or spark arrester.
 - Ø Clear vegetation around fire hydrants, cisterns, propane tanks, etc.
 - Ø Make sure an outdoor water supply is available, with hose, nozzle and pump.
 - Ø Make sure fire tools, ladder and fire extinguishers are available.
 - Ø Post address signs that are clearly visible from the street or road.
 - Ø Make sure the driveway is wide enough for fire trucks and equipment.
 - Ø Post load limits on bridges.
 - Ø Install and test smoke detectors.
 - Ø Practice a family fire drill and evacuation plan.
- Evacuation Tips**
- Ø If a wildfire is threatening your area, listen to your radio for updated reports and evacuation information.
 - Ø Confine pets to one room and make plans to take care of them in the event of evacuation.
 - Ø Arrange for temporary housing with a friend or relative whose home is outside the threatened area.
 - Ø Leave a note in a prominent place in your home that says where and how you can be contacted.
 - Ø If your home is threatened by wildfire, you will be contacted and advised by law enforcement officers to evacuate. If you are not contacted, or you decide to stay and help defend your home, evacuate pets and any family members not needed to protect your home.

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

Rubio Canyon

On August 6, 2008, at the Sierra Club Pasadena Group's monthly meeting, Mike McIntyre, district ranger for the Los Angeles River Ranger District of Angeles National Forest will present a slide-illustrated program concerning current plans for restoring Rubio Canyon and will provide an update on other environmental issues in his ranger district. Social hour begins at 7:00 pm, program starts at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held, as usual, at Eaton Canyon Nature Center, 1750 N Altadena Dr. Pasadena. For additional information see the Group's website at <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena>.

See you there
Paul

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).

Learn new skills in 2008: training and resources

Looking for a class or workshop for trails and greenways sills?

The most comprehensive calendar on the Web for trail-related training and education.
www.TrailsTraining.net.

Visitors find your NRT 1,000 trails online www.nrtdatabase.org

**ANGELES FOREST
VOLUNTEER MEETING
SCHEDULE FOR 2008.
• SEPT 17 • NOV 19.**

National Public Lands Day

• **September 27, 2008**

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. In 2007, 110,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants. Join us for the 15th annual National Public Lands Day.

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS Join One Today

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

It is with regret that I inform everyone that Dick Wagoner passed away on July 4th 2008. Dick was diagnosed with lung cancer two weeks ago when he was admitted into the hospital with pneumonia. Dick had just turned 77 on June 24th and he and Mary celebrated their 14th wedding anniversary on July 3rd.

Dick had his family by his side and his Fire Lookout hat on his head when God took him home. Dick has been with the program since 1999 and staffed South Mount Hawkins every Monday's for the fire season. He and Mary raised thousand's of dollars for the rebuilding of South Mount Hawkins and Dick spent many hours with the group putting in the trail at Slide and the clearing around the Lookout when we got to the top. Dick's stories will be missed by all but the time we have spent with him we will always have.

AC100 TRAIL VOLUNTEERS

All Welcome, Work Schedule at:

<http://www.ac100.com>

- Aug 16, Trail Work
- Aug 17, Training Run
- Aug 30, Trail Work
- Aug 31, Training Run

Hal Winton Co-rd

Winton4jesus@juno.com

Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group (ACTRWG)

www.altadenatrails.org 626-797-7243

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.

ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL (AMBP)

mmcguirepools@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.

Antelope Valley Conservancy

www.avconservancy.org

GET INVOLVED!

OFFICE PHONE (661) 943-9000

avconservancy@yahoo.com

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail Keepers

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.

Audubon Center at Debs Park

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

(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)

Richard Nyerges

626-285-0962 nyerges@sbcglobal.net

Beyond Basecamp

Beyondbasecamp.com

323 896-0123

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

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Big Santa Anita Firesafe Council

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

Danny Treadway

dayhiker86@yahoo.com

Graffiti Removal & Trail Clean Up.

Boy Scouts of America

The High Adventure Team – Los Angeles Area

Training Council provides training opportunities for all interested individuals. For more information:

www.boyscoutsla.org click H.A.T.

California Trail Users Coalition

(CTUC) www.ctuc.info

• Aug 20 Meeting

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.

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA)

Telephone (818) 773-3555

<http://www.corbambt.com/cgi-bin/calendar.pl>

CORBA is an all-volunteer non-profit organization serving the mountain bicycling community of Los Angeles and its surrounding areas including southern Ventura County. We are dedicated to preserving open space, maintaining public access to public lands, and creating more trail opportunities for all to enjoy.

Community Hiking Club

661-259-2743

email: zuliebear@aol.com

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel

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.

• Aug 2- Santa Clarita Canyons-

• Aug 9- Whitney Canyon-

• Aug 16-Santa Clara River Twilight Stroll

• Aug 23-Elsmere Canyon

• Aug 30-Bear Divide

Equestrian Trails, Inc.

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

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.

HABITAT WORK.ORG

Kim Clark or Tom Persons

818-353-4653

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

• Aug 30/31 outing

Fall Calendar Under Construction:

• Tamarisk Hunts @ Piru, Bitter, and San Emigdio Creeks

• Condor Microtrash Clean Ups, Sespe Wilderness Sensitive Plant Surveys, Angeles NF

• Post Buckweed Fire Monitoring

• Untaming the American West @ Bitter Creek and Wind Wolves

• Condor Recovery Program Projects, Hopper Mtn.

Haramokngna American Indian Cultural Center

www.haramokngna.org

Kat at 310-455-1588, katcalls@aol.com

All workshops have limited enrollment, and need reservations, paid in advance

• Aug 8-10 – Second Basketweavers' Gathering Funded, in part, by Alliance of California Traditional Arts Workshops, showcase, tour of developing gathering areas within National Forest Details

JPL TRAILBUILDERS <http://www.jplhiking.org/>

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL) 626-798-7256 (home) Jack Russell 562-861-3187

- Aug 9 OUTING
- Aug 30 OUTING

In this hotter weather, we will work the shady parts of Mt Lowe East and West Trails. Maintenance consists mainly of lopping brush and widening trail tread.

Mt Disappointment 50K/50M

www.mtdisappointment50k.com

Gary Hilliard, Director

gary@mtdisappointment50k.com

- AUG 9 -- Race

Mt. Wilson Observatory Association

<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

SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS

<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org>

<http://www.crystallake.name>

Ben White

bwootenwhite@hotmail.com

626-303-1078

We work on the first, third, and fifth, Saturday of each month.

Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Committee

Meeting on a Quarterly basis at Carvalho Sports Complex Activity Center.

Monrovia Canyon Park

<http://www.ci.monrovia.ca.us/index.cfm/0/Canyon-Park-1.cfm>

Come and enjoy a wilderness experience only five minutes from downtown Monrovia. This refreshing recreational site provides a peaceful and quiet setting for your family, social or business gatherings. Let your imagination and your appreciation for nature be revitalized as you explore the 80 acres of trails and serene picnic areas.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer call Kathleen at 626-256-8282.

- AUG 9- Trails Day

Outward Bound – Los Angeles

<http://www.obainc.org>

The mission of Outward Bound is to inspire character development and self-discovery in people of all ages and walks of life through challenge and adventure, and impel them to achieve more than they ever thought possible, to show compassion for others and to actively engage in creating a better world.

The mission of Outward Bound Los Angeles is to provide nature-based education that promotes positive self-development, environmental responsibility, and outdoor career exposure for low-income, at-risk, and urban youth.

Phone: 626-564-0844

E-mail: obainc.sbcglobal.net

Pacific Crest Trail Association (PCTA)

WWW.PCTA.org

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

Check out PCTA Service Projects at

<http://www.trailprojects.com/projectsdatabase.html>

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

For additional information:

Suzanne Wilson

swilson@pcta.org

951-492-9836

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

<http://www.mtlowe.net>

Brian Marcroft 562-868-8919

Emworks@verizon.net



VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

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

Wednesday Hiking Club and Granada Club

• AUG 9 Outing

We're Korean-Americans, who love working in the National Forest. We work the 2nd 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

Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest Wrightwood, CA

Loren Lake, President lorenll@verizon.net

William S Hart UHSD of Santa Clarita ANF Crew 5130

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

What was that?

You are out on a hike at night and you see a flash in the sky similar to the time lapsed picture to the right. You may have seen a Iridium satellite!

What is a Iridium satellite?

The Iridium satellites were launched by Motorola in 1997 and 1998 and were designed to allow the use of satellite phones anywhere in the world.

It was originally planned that there be seven planes with eleven satellites, each circling the earth via the poles. Some failed, some went out of control and are tumbling around, and some have reentered the Earth's atmosphere and have burnt up.

They are not made of iridium, but are named after the element, because the iridium atom has 77 electrons circling the nucleus and there were to be 77 satellites circling the Earth. However, there are now only six planes with 11 satellites each (plus some "spares".)

Why do they flash?

The satellite three Main Mission Antennae are made from highly polished aluminum and are about the size of a house door. When they reflect light from the Sun, an observer in the correct position will see a bright flash or flare in the sky for several seconds

How bright is the flash?

The brightest of the flares will have magnitude of -8, that is bright enough to see at daytime. Magnitude refers to the brightness of space objects. The brighter the object, the lower the magnitude. It is a logarithmic scale, so that a difference in magnitude of 5, means an object is 100 times brighter. A difference of one magnitude, means that it is 2.5 times brighter. Venus at its brightest is a -4.4, the sun is a -26.7, a full moon is -12.7.

How do I locate a here can go to find these flares?

To learn about where to look in the sky for the flares go to <http://heavens-above.com/>.



Help Yourself, Help CORBA

A number of businesses will make a donation to your favorite nonprofit organization when you do business with them. There is no extra cost to you - the business contributes some of their profits to CORBA as part of their community support program, and in return they get some good press and a tax write-off to boot.

If you're using these services, why not work with these businesses and help CORBA support Los Angeles-region mountain biking at the same time?

Ralph's Community Contribution Program

CORBA is pleased to announce that we are part of the Ralphs Community Contribution Program. Ralphs grocery stores contribute to your favorite participating 501(c)(3) non-profit when you use your club card. All that you need to do is click on this link to sign up, and use our "NPO" number 90320.
<http://www.ralphs.com/ccprogram.htm> Sign-up now! It's quick and easy.

Albertsons' Community Partners Program

CORBA is pleased to announce that we are part of the Albertsons' Community Partners Program. Albertsons grocery stores contribute to your favorite participating 501(c)(3) non-profit when you use your club card. All that you need to do is click on this link to sign up, and use our Community Partner ID# 49001015710.
<http://www.albertsons.com/cp/> Sign-up now! It's quick and easy.

Use Goodsearch.com to help CORBA

Goodsearch.com is a grassroots search engine that donates a small amount (1-2 cents) to a charity of your choice each time you search. If even just 100 people use Goodsearch.org twice a day, that's about \$730 raised for CORBA per year. The search engine that goodsearch.org uses is Yahoo. You can also click through their GoodShop affiliate program when you shop online with participating retailers for additional donations to CORBA or another charity of your choice. It's easy to use. Once connected to <http://www.goodsearch.com>, simply enter CORBA into the box where it asks "WHO DO YOU GOODSEARCH FOR?" Check it out!

You can also use GoodShop to help CORBA! Do your online shopping at more than 500 stores through GoodShop and they will donate a few percent to CORBA. Don't forget to specify CORBA as the group you goodshop for.

Buy a Cell Phone for Mountain Biking Access!

CORBA has partnered with Phones For Good. Phones For Good is an online retailer of cellular phones dedicated to raising money for nonprofit organizations. PFG offers a broad selection of phones and often, more competitive pricing than traditional retailers. Many phones are free, and they are an authorized Agent of AT&T, Verizon, Sprint, Nextel and T-Mobile. When you buy a new cellular phone and plan through the Phones For Good website and select CORBA, CORBA will earn \$40.00 - \$50.00 for each new purchase. Check it out at <http://www.phonesforgood.com/pfg/go/245>.

Fix that dent in your car and help CORBA

Holmes Body Shop will donate 5% of your auto body repair total to CORBA. Visit www.holmesbodyshop.com/school.php for details.

Holmes has locations in Westlake Village, Canoga Park, Woodland Hills, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, El Segundo, Pasadena, Duarte, and Riverside.

Print CORBA's certificate from their website pull-down menu and present it when you drop your vehicle off for repair. When the repair is complete they will send 5% of the repair total directly to CORBA. Along with the check they'll send a letter letting the us know the gift is from you.

Let Us Help Fund Your Next Trail Project!

Could your trail project benefit from additional funding? Do you need more tools to keep your volunteers busy? Do you need more volunteers to use the tools you already have? Or perhaps you need more of both!

The American Hiking Society 2009 National Trails Fund is now open for applications. Please note that the application window has changed and is earlier than in previous years. Applications must be submitted no later than August 15, 2008.

This year, American Hiking will provide more support than ever to grassroots trail organizations around the country, giving local trail groups the resources they need to secure trail access, obtain and support volunteers and provide tools and materials to protect America's cherished hiking trails.

Established in 1998, the National Trails Fund provides funding to help establish, protect and maintain hiking trails in America. Awards typically range from \$500 to \$5,000 per project.

A variety of projects will be considered for the 2009 National Trails Fund, including projects that:

- Have hikers as the primary constituency, though multiple human-powered trail projects are eligible
- Secure trail lands, including acquisition of trails and trail corridors and the costs associated with acquiring conservation easements
- Result in visible and substantial ease of access, improved hiker safety and/or avoidance of environmental damage
- Promote constituency building surrounding specific trail projects, including volunteer recruitment and support

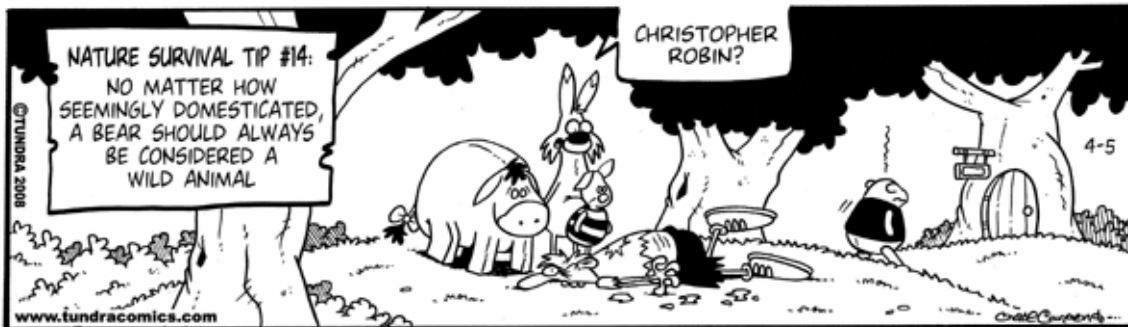
For the 2009 cycle, American Hiking will be awarding two different types of National Trail Fund grants: American Hiking Society Trail Grants, sponsored by L.L.Bean, Therm-a-Rest and MSR and ranging from \$500 to \$4,999; and Nature Valley Save the Trails grants, totaling \$5,000 each.

Grants may only be awarded to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. If your organization is not a 501(c)(3), please feel free to partner with an organization that is and that works on trails in your park, preserve, etc.

Please contact Peter Olsen at POlsen@AmericanHiking.org or by phone at 301-565-6704 x207 for more information.

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter Los Angeles Times April 5, 2008 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: _____