

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 Oct 2011



Dennis Merkel is the new Recreation Officer for the Los Angeles River Ranger District.

He has over 30 years of experience in the field of Parks and Recreation, serving communities in both government and private industry. Dennis moved to Southern California from Albuquerque, New Mexico where he was assigned to the Southwest Regional Office of the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Prior to that Dennis supervised diversified programs, services, and facilities - including campgrounds and natural areas, trails, picnic areas, parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, swimming pools, entertainment facilities and concession operations in various communities.

He also served 20 years with the US Department of Defense as a Morale, Welfare and Recreation Officer, managing programs and services for active duty military personnel and their families. Dennis' career has taken him all over the world; in addition to several US states, he has lived in Bermuda, Japan, Iceland, and the Middle East.

He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Parks and Recreation Administration from the University of Northern Colorado where he was selected for several academic and athletic awards and was a member of the only undefeated championship football team in school history.

His wife Gregrie is dedicated to working with quality of life issues concerning the community and the environment.

Gregrie and Dennis see this area as a beautiful spot with friendly people; a great place to bring their family consisting of two beagles and cat.

As Recreation Officer for District, Dennis plans to bring a focus on quality programs, teamwork, outstanding customer service and imaginative development of resources.

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"You can avoid reality. But you cannot avoid the consequences of avoiding reality." --Avn Rand

Electronic copy of Newsletter at:
<http://www.mtlowe.net/VolunteerNews.htm>

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VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENTS

●NEED TREE CARE HELP!

Reminder that our forest recovery program “*ForestAid: Angeles*”, in partnership with TreePeople, is now a tree care and maintenance effort and volunteers are need Saturdays and Sundays from June to October between the hours of 10:00am to 1:00pm. If you are interested in participating visit: www.forestaid.net to sign up. or Suzanne Avila (626) 297-4195

●Nov 13th

Corba Fat Tire Fun(d)raiser

This year we will be returning to Malibu Creek State Park with a slightly different format than in years past. We’re still working out the details, but you can be sure that there will be great rides and some great prizes given away. We will be toning down the festival atmosphere and concentrating on what we love to do most—ride! We’re also hoping to have a full complement of some of the hottest bikes available for testing by some of the industry’s best manufacturers.

●Oct 8th Bridge to Nowhere Adventure

Lets hike to the Bridge to Nowhere and maybe we can get somewhere.

We will be meeting at the East Fork Ranger Station parking lot @ 7:30am.

nyerges@sbcglobal.net 626-285-0962



● WE WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOU!

Suzanne Avila the volunteer coordinator would like each volunteer group to pick a month and write a cover sheet about their group in the newsletter. Phone 626-574-5224. email savila@fs.fed.us



● Oct 2nd/9th/16th/23rd

NEED INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL HELP!

Removal of highly invasive, non-native plants that are preventing native plant recovery in the Station Fire burn area. Target plant species is the highly invasive Spanish Broom.

Contact Person:

Suzanne Avila, Volunteer Partnership Coordinator

Phone: (626) 297-4195 E-mail: friendsoftheangeles@gmail.com

● NEED TRAIL WORK HELP!

The Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy (“AFC”) recently completed its purchase of 38 acres of undeveloped land at the mouth of Rubio Canyon. One of its first projects is the restoration of the historic trails that run through the property, which connect Rubio Canyon directly to Inspiration Point via the Lone Tree Trail.. Paul Ayers is directing the restoration for the AFC, beginning with the Camp Huntington Trail and the Lone Tree Trail via the old Edison jeep road. Paul is looking for volunteer to assist the project with "pick, shovel and rake work" under the guidance of experienced volunteer trail builders for about four hours the first Saturday morning of each month. Rain cancels. Tools will be provided.

Paul’s contact information is: ayerspaul@sbcglobal.net 818-378-3217.

● FOREST SERVICE NEEDS:

If you are interested in supporting either of these Forest Service activities, please contact Dennis Merkel, LARRD Recreation Staff Officer, at (818) 899-1900, ext. 229 or dcmerkel@fs.fed.us.

● **Campground Hosts volunteers!** Los Angeles River Ranger District is in need of volunteers to serve as campground hosts for Monte Cristo, Buckhorn, and Chilao Campgrounds. Duties include greeting and interacting with the public, general maintenance support, and aiding with safety and policy procedures.

● **Recycling volunteers!** New recycling centers have been recently installed on the District and volunteers are also needed to assist with the new recycling program.



Mt. Wilson Bicycling Association's

Annual Pancake Breakfast

Walk, Run or Bike to where it all began...

Henninger Flats!

3 miles up the Mt. Wilson Toll Road

Entrance located at 2260 Pinecrest Drive, Altadena, CA

Do you have it in you?

If you think you do, be a part of the Naked Crow Mountain Bike and Runner Challenge!

LIVE Music with Wreck N Sow!

They are tall and they wear shirts!

www.wrecknsow.com

Food 🎵 Music 🎵 Entertainment • Games • Prizes • Much More

Sunday, November 6, 2011

8:30 am – 11:00 am

Breakfast and 1 raffle ticket: \$6.00

Additional Raffle Tickets: \$1.00 each

***VIP Admission: \$40.00**

***VIP Admission includes:**

- Valet bike parking
- Basic bike tune up by Ray Herrera of Pasadena Cyclery, PMBC and MWBA
- First in line breakfast pass
- **20 RAFFLE TICKETS!!!**

All tickets may be purchased the day of the event.

All proceeds to go improving, building and maintaining trails for everyone



Go to MWBA.ORG for more information

MWBA is a non-profit organization under Pasadena Forward

Mark your calendars for the Southern California Trail Skills Colleges

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

What is the Trail Skills College?

Trail maintainers of all levels, from beginners to advanced, can learn new skills at the Trail Skills College. This is a chance to get hands-on trail maintenance experience. Courses are taught by professionals and volunteer leaders who have extensive experience in the fields of recreational construction, trail maintenance and leadership.

What is the cost?

The Trail Skills College is free! Meals and camping* are included. Camping will be available Friday and Saturday. Meals will include breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Safety gear and tools will also be available for students to use throughout the weekend.

**We are planning to provide camping on-site at the Tehachapi Trail Skills College; however, a recent fire in the Oak Creek Canyon area may not allow us to camp there. It is possible that participants will need to commute from their homes. We will keep the website and registered participants updated as we learn more. The Angeles National Forest Trail Skills College will have camping.*

What courses are being offered?

Four courses are being offered between the two Southern California Trail Skills Colleges. Participants choose one course to take for the full day and can come just for the day or the full weekend!

Introduction to Trail Maintenance (Course 100)

Are you new to trail work? This course will introduce a range of trail maintenance tasks including safety, brushing, hand-saw clearing, and drain clearing.

- Oct 15th Tehachapi Trail Skills College Saturday
- Nov 5th Angeles National Forest Trail Skills

Tread and Drainage (Course 102)

Learn basic hillside hydrology and how to recognize tread erosion patterns. Get hands-on practice removing slough and berm and learn how to effectively clean and maintain water bars and drain dips.

- Oct 16th Tehachapi Trail Skills College Saturday
- Nov 6th Angeles National Forest Trail Skills

Drainage Design and Drain Dips (Course 201)

Do you have some experience with drainage work but looking to learn more? This course will teach you how to design and locate effective drainage structures. After a comprehensive explanation of hillside hydrology and how trails work when they shed water properly, this class shows students how to design and construct long, rolling drain dips as a way of reducing erosion on existing trails.

- Nov 6th Angeles National Forest Trail Skills

Crew Leadership (Course 304)

Are you ready to lead or assist in leading trail crews? This course is designed to teach individuals with trail maintenance experience how to be an effective leader. While this is not a construction technique course, students will learn about topics in: Work Day Responsibilities, Risk Assessment and Safety, Tool Safety and Tool Talks, and Team Building.

- Oct 16th Tehachapi Trail Skills College
- Nov 5th Angeles National Forest Trail Skills

Where is the Trail Skills Colleges?

The Tehachapi Trail Skills College will be held at Oak Creek Canyon, approximately 30 minutes from downtown Tehachapi and 15 minutes from Mojave. We do not expect the recent fire to interfere with our plans to have the Trail Skills College at this location. However, we will keep the website and registered participants updated. If the location needs to change, it will be in a nearby area.

Final site arrangements for the Angeles National Forest are still being arranged. We will keep the website and registered participants updated.

How to apply?

Just follow these three simple steps:

1 Review the course descriptions. Choose one course to take for the full day.

2 Are you new to the PCTA? Please goto: <http://pcta.org/help/volunteer/application/submit>

3 The volunteer application and include the course and college you are registering for under the Specific Location of Interest.

4 Have you already submitted the volunteer application? Please register with Nathaniel Willson at nwillson@pcta.org.

If you have questions about the Trail Skills College we would be more than happy to help you find the answers!

Please contact Nathaniel Willson at nwillson@pcta.org or Anitra Kass at akass@pcta.org. We look forward to seeing you at this year's Trail Skills College!

Happy trails to you,

Merrit Hoeh
Volunteer Programs Assistant

Pacific Crest Trail Association
1331 Garden Highway
Sacramento, CA 95833
mhoeh@pcta.org (email)

916.285.1846 (main)
916.285.1838 (direct)

www.pcta.org

Thank you to the 2011 Trail Skills College sponsors and partners!

Volunteers involved in Historical preservation



Before 1996 this is what the pavilion at Inspiration Point looked like. Inspiration Point is located 2 miles and 1500 ft up Castle Canyon from Echo Mountain.

The original pavilion was built in 1925. After the Echo Mountain rail way abandoned in 1936 the building started to deteriorate. It was in such bad shape that it was torn down in the late 50's.

Narration by George Aumann

The Scenic Mt. Lowe Railway leaders Brian and John Harrigan lead the re-building of the pavilion in 1996, funded with \$10,000 from the US Forest Service and \$1000 in private donations. Volunteers hauled the 12,000 lbs of lumber and roofing up from Pasadena in their pickup trucks and spent 10 weekends to rebuild the pavilion.

Narration by George Aumann



Brian Marcroft (yellow hardhat) with John Harrigan (red hardhat) fixing the roof of the pavilion at Inspiration Point on 17 September 2011, with the help of Boy Scout Troops 904 (Ceritos) and 391 (Norwalk).

Photo/ Narration
by George Aumann, USFS Volunteer #15.

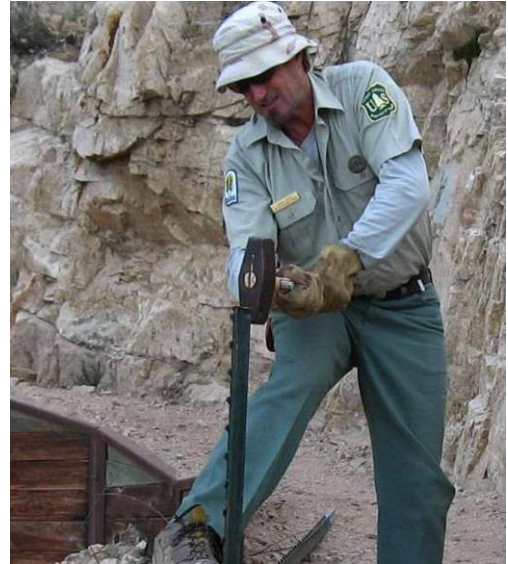


Volunteer Historical Preservation Crew

How long have they been doing that?

Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail Keepers has maintained the Lower Sam Merrill Trail for 12 years

On Sept 29th the Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail keepers led by Mark Gage have completed 12 years of working the LSM.



Did you know that Woodsy Owl has been giving a hoot for 40 years?

The furry and big-eyed environmental and antipollution steward marks 40 years of being a U.S. Forest Service symbol.

On Sept. 15, 1971, then U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin introduced the owl to the nation. For many years, Woodsy Owl's signature motto was "Give a hoot; don't pollute!" Over the following decades, Woodsy Owl has helped educate and inspire youth, as well as those in the education fields, to engage in conservation of the environment. Today, Woodsy Owl encourages youth to "Lend a hand – Care for the land!" and to explore their surroundings.

Those who recall Woodsy Owl of the 1970s may notice the change in his physical appearance. When he debuted in 1971, he was short and portly; today, he is lean and athletic. Further, Woodsy Owl has undergone a sartorial transformation to reflect today's youth by wearing hiking boots and sporting a backpack.

Over the years, Woodsy Owl appeared in numerous TV public service announcements about natural resources. Today, Woodsy Owl spreads his message through educational programs of his partners, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Head Start program in 10 states, and the children-focused website, DiscoverTheForest.org. His message has also expanded, as he encourages children to follow his 4Rs: recycle, reduce, reuse, and rot (composting). Woodsy Owl also actively engages with young audiences on his Twitter and Face book pages.



LARRD Volunteer Meeting Minutes Sept 21, 2011

By Kathie Reilly

- At mtlowe.net you can find all the previous newsletters.
- **Angeles Mountain Bikers and Trail Keepers** - Brushing Lower Sam Merrill Trail is done over half way up the trail. Wall at Cobb Estate needs rebuilding.
- **Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association** - working Fire Tower at LA County Fair
- **Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol** - Pancake breakfast at Henninger Flats Nov 6 from 8:30 to 11. There will be Blue Grass music.
- **JPL Trailbuilders** – worked South San Gabriel Peak Trail. Had problems with lock at Mt Disappointment Gate.
- **Pacific Crest Trail** - some work temporarily shut down due to fire. A group will be working trail at Mt Whitney.
- **Arroyo Seco Canyon** - \$470 from recycles at Chantry. Saturday and Sunday teaching CPR, and Wilderness and Remote First Aid class for Sierra Madre Fire Safety Council, and later CPR refresher for Los Padres Ski Patrol recertification. Coordinated 18-25 medical support people for AC100 race.
- **Mt Disappointment 50K** - Gary broke his back on Kenyon DeVore Trail. Race route had to be rerouted at end making it 2 miles longer, which made it tougher for some people. Traffic accident on Highway 2 made communications difficult.
- **Scenic Mt Lowe Committee** – did roof repair at Inspiration Point
- **Boy Scouts** – Eagle projects are starting up again at Chilao, Valley Forge, and Little Pines. Valley Forge Trail is in good shape thanks to Gary and his group. Had another Trail Boss training a few weeks ago.
- **Angeles Crest 100 Mile Endurance Run** – been doing trail inspections
- **Bear Canyon** – worked PCT. There will be another work weekend in November, check the PCT web site. They also provide chains saw training recognized by the Forest Service. October 8 Richard leading hike to Bridge to Nowhere. Plan on starting work in Bear Canyon depending upon road repair that is needed past Mueller Tunnel.
- **Eaton Canyon** – Blight Busters remove graffiti and trash pickup once per month.
- **Mt Wilson Bicycle Association** – Next work day Oct 8 on Sunset Ridge. (Korean group is no longer working it) Meet at Mt Lowe gate at 8. Would like to work trail from Red Box to Switzers.
- **CTUC**- working LA County Fair, North Fork Station, San Gabriel Canyon OHV obstacle course. October 26 is meeting of Supervisors.
- **Tree People** – planting trees in Chilao area
- **Hahamongna Culture Center at Red Box**– Started Culture Club to teach people gathering, getting along with the land. Oct 8 is workshop on prickly pear. Nov 13 is rabbit skin blanket workshop. For Poodledog rash, make a paste of yerba santa and mugwort with olive oil. Poodledog is there to protect the land from herbivores to allow healing.
- **USFS**
 - Strawberry Peak Trail is probably the most devastated. Don't know when it will reopen. It needs a plan and dedicated groups. Gary will talk to McIntyre about a plan.
 - Trail signs are done by CTUC.
 - Bear activity in Little Jimmy.
 - Fire danger very high, November is usually the worst fire month.
 - Saturday is National Public Lands Day, free day in Forest.
 - In the last fiscal year, 115 tons of garbage have been collected.
 - All - Need your hours reports, list of 100 hour volunteers, and 500 hours.
 - Due to various injuries lately, safety is being stressed.
 - Buckhorn Campground is reopened and looking for campground host. Also need hosts at Chilao and Monte Cristo.

Plants that are not wanted: Tamarisk



What is it?

Tamarisk, Also called Saltcedar is a shrubby bush or tree that can range in size from 5 to 20 feet tall. The bark is a reddish brown, especially on younger branches. The leaves are small and flat and resemble evergreen shrubs such as arborvitae. Flowers are pink to white in color, five-petaled, and appear from mid to late summer. The seeds are extremely tiny and similar in size and color to pepper. Each seed has a pappus which allows it to float long distances in water or move in the wind.

Why is it a Threat?

Tamarisks are extremely invasive in riparian communities, often nearly completely replacing native vegetation with impenetrable thickets. Dense stands of salt cedars support lower biodiversity than the natural communities they displace.

They are extremely competitive against native vegetation because they are aggressive users of water. They are able to limit competition from other plants by taking up salt from deep ground water, accumulating it in their foliage, and from there depositing it in the surface soil where it builds up concentrations inhibiting growth and germination of native riparian species.

Leaf litter from Saltcedar increases the frequency of fire. Saltcedar is capable of resprouting vigorously following fire and, coupled with changes in soil salinity, ultimately dominates riparian plant communities.

Where does it have a foothold in the Angeles Forest?

It has been found in every drainage area in the Angeles Forest.

Where did it come from?

Salt Cedar is found throughout much of central Asia, from the Near East around the Caspian Sea, through western China to North Korea.

Although Saltcedar may have been introduced into North America by the Spaniards, it did not gain recognition in the western United States until the 1800s. It was planted widely for erosion control, as a windbreak, for shade, and as an ornamental.

How does it spread?

It spreads by seed and vegetative growth.

Individual plants can produce 500,000 tiny seeds per year, which are easily dispersed long distances by wind and water. Seedlings require extended periods of soil saturation for establishment, which limits the tamarisk to grow only near streams.

New plants also grow from submerged stems and spreading roots.

RESORT NOTES

According to recent statement from the Los Angeles office of the Forest Service all mountain resorts in the Angeles National Forest are open to the public. Persons wishing to visit Robert's Camp, Big Santa Anita Canyon, Orchards Camp, Little Santa Anita Canyon, Switzer-Land Resort, Upper Arroyo Seco, Opids Camp, West Fork of the San Gabriel, Fern Ridge, Big Santa Anita Canyon, Strutevant's Camp, Big Santa Anita Canyon, Camp West Fork, West Fork of the San Gabriel, or Hoegee's Camp, Winter's Creek, Big Santa Anita Canyon, which are all situated on mountain trails in the Angeles National Forest. May do so. Provided they secure a Forest Service permit, easily obtained, either from the Los Angeles headquarters of the Forest Service in the Federal building, Temple and Spring streets, or from a representative of that service at some of the various canyon entrances.

Those persons wanting to visit Mt. Wilson Hotel and cottages, Mr. Wilson, Lowe Tavern and cottages, Mt Lowe, Camp Oak Wylde, Arroyo Seco , Camp Idle Hour, Eaton Canyon, Camp Rincon, West Fork of the San Gabriel, Cold Brook Camp, North Fork of the San Gabriel, Camp Baldy, San Antonio Canyon, or Wildwood Lodge, Big Tujunga Canyon. May do so without securing the Forest Service permits, as they are all located on county highways.

Visitors to mountain resorts may stay as long as they please; however, it is required that they remain within the bounds of the various resorts to which they go. No camp-fire permits are being issued. Smoking is forbidden within the limits of the forest, except in mountain resorts and improved camp grounds.

An excellent fall and winter season is anticipated by the Southern California mountain resorts

FLASH FORWARD:

The Only Thing Certain is Change, in this case all of the resorts are gone!

However "Opid's Camp resort was bought by the Campfire girls in 1944 and became Camp Singer. Then in 1948 the Long beach Unified School District (LBUSD) bought the camp and renames it "Camp Hi Hill". Some of the buildings Studio, the Library and the museum are originally from the resort. All other buildings were built when LBUSD took over.

But as change has come again the camp was closed in 2008 to save the school district nearly \$1 million annually. The closure was part of more than \$100 million in cuts that the school district has made in the past five years due to the state's ongoing budget crisis.



Photo by Mike Ryan

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

AC100 <http://www.ac100.com>

By: Hal Winton and Ken Hamada

The 25th Annual Angeles Crest 100 Mile Endurance Run will be July 21/22, 2012.

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.

Angeles Mountain Bike Patrol

m.rmeguire@hotmail.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.

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION

<http://www.anffla.org>

• Help rebuild Vetter Mtn Fire Lookout with a purchase of a reusable tote bag for \$5.



• Help support ANFFLA everytime you shop! Register your Ralphs Club Card and your Food4Less card and ANFFLA will receive a donation every time you shop. It's an easy to help support our efforts and costs you nothing!

contact:

Pam Morey

pammorey@fs.fed.us

Forest Care Program Coordinator
909-744-9510 ext. 125

Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group 626-797-7243

Monthly meetings on second Tuesday at Altadena Community Center

www.altadenatrails.org

Antelope Valley Conservancy

www.avconservancy.org

avconservancy@yahoo.com

OFFICE PHONE (661) 943-9000

Facebook: Antelope Valley Conservancy

• If you use Google or any other search engine, please try **GoodSearch.com** to help us build the Sustaining Endowment. Just type "av conservancy" as your charity and Yahoo donates a penny for each search- at no cost to you! Do it now, so you don't forget. Thank you!

Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy

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

John Howell, Executive Director (626) 796-3004

Facebook: Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy

If you're interested in helping with trail and habitat restoration in the canyon, goto:

<http://www.arroyosfoothills.org/volunteer/>

• Oct 1st Unexplored Rubio Canyon

Docent: Dan Abendschein, Editor, Altadena Patch

Much of Rubio Canyon had been inaccessible to the public for decades when the Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy and its partners preserved the canyon in 2011. Explore this untrammled land with a hike along a trail first carved in 1888, and learn of the canyon's rich history as the home of the Huntington Boy Scout Camp and the Mount Lowe Railway. Dan Abendschein, the editor of the Altadena Patch news site and a local trails enthusiast, will lead the hike.

• Oct 8th 8:00 a.m. Birding Hike

Docent: Kathi Ellsworth, Pasadena Audubon Society

Learn about birds of the local foothills with Kathi Ellsworth of the Pasadena Audubon Society. Among bird species that have been observed in the local area are the red-shouldered and red-tailed hawk, the merlin, the wren-tit, the northern mockingbird, the California thrasher, the California quail and the mourning dove. Remember to bring binoculars.

• Oct 15th 9:00 a.m. Mt. Lowe Railway to Falls

Docent: Lyle Hatridge, teacher

The Mount Lowe Railway was a major attraction in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, bringing Angelenos and tourists to popular resorts on Mount Lowe and Echo Mountain. Today, the trail at Lake Avenue is the major conduit to the site of those once-famous resorts, but you'll take the back way: following the former route of the railway to the site of the Rubio Incline, which carried passengers up the steep mountainside for the remainder of their journey. Lyle Hatridge, a middle-school teacher at Polytechnic School and a wilderness enthusiast, will bring the railway's history alive and point out native plants.

Cont (p5)

Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy (cont)

- **Oct 22nd 9 a.m.: Geology of Local Foothills**

Docent: John Wros, environmental geologist

Tucked away at the foot of one of the fastest-rising mountain ranges in the United States, Rubio Canyon holds a number of clues to that range's development. The deformed bedrock walls illustrate a tortured evolution, which continues today -- a portion of the active San Gabriel Fault runs through the canyon. Learn about the canyon's 1,200-million-year history and predictions for its seismic future with environmental geologist and rock hound John Wros.

- **Oct 29th 9 a.m.: Mt. Lowe Railway to Falls**

Docent: Michele Zack, author, Altadena: Between Wilderness and City

The Mount Lowe Railway was a major attraction in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, bringing Angelenos and tourists to popular resorts on Mount Lowe and Echo Mountain. Today, the trail at Lake Avenue is the major conduit to the site of those once-famous resorts, but you'll take the back way: following the former route of the railway to the site of the Rubio Incline, which carried passengers up the steep mountainside for the remainder of their journey.

Local historian and journalist Michele Zack, author of history books about Altadena and Sierra Madre, will bring the history of the railroad and early settlers to life.

Audubon Center at Debs Park

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

(323) 221-2255 FACEBOOK:

AUDUBONDEBSPARK

- **Oct 1st Family Nature Walk**

- **Oct 2nd/9th/16th/23rd/30th Tai Chi**

- **Oct 8th Art and Nature**

- **Oct 15th Solar system training**

Call Wade Webb for more information at 888-786-9322 or

email wadesolarwebb@aol.com

- **Oct 21st Nature together**

- **Oct 22nd Old Time String Band Jam Session**

Listen and dance to local area musicians strum

Southern Appalachian style fiddle and banjo tunes.

Bring your own instrument to join in on the fun!

BEAR CANYON TRAIL CREW

Richard Nyerges

nyerges@sbcglobal.net

626-285-0962

Breaking for summer heat, see you all in the fall!

Blight Busters Trail Crew

Danny Treadway

dayhiker86@yahoo.com

Big Santa Anita Canyon

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

Adams Pack Station Contact:

Friday, Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am - 5:00pm

(626) 447-7356

Boy Scouts of America**Los Angeles Area Council**

<http://www.laac-hat.com/>

California Trail Users Coalition (CTUC)

www.ctuc.info

- **Oct 19th meeting Come and Join Us**

CTUC meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5:00 p.m. at 3550 Foothill Blvd., Glendale, CA.

Our meetings are open to everyone who wishes to participate. Volunteers have a great time working together on these types of projects. To volunteer on one of our projects, please join us by calling our Chairman, Terry Kaiser at 818-353-4682. You may also email: edwaldheim@aol.com

CITY OF GLENDALE**Parks, Recreation & Community Services Dept**

<http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/parks/default.asp>

Jeff Weinstein jweinstein@ci.glendale.ca.us

Trails and Open Space Specialist

818-548-2000

- **Oct 15th Third Saturday Wilderness work day**

For information, call:

Shirley Robertson at (818) 548-2188.

Community Hiking Club

communityhikingclub.org

661-259-2743 Facebook: Community Hiking Club

Dianne Erskine Hellrigel email: zuliebear@aol.com

• Oct 1st - Santa Clarita Canyons to Wilson Saddle and back.

This is an easy 6 mile hike with very little gain/loss. The best views in the Santa Clarita Valley are along this ridge. You will be able to see the SFV, the SCV and if it is clear, you will be able to see Catalina. If you want more of a workout, ask Dianne and she will give you an option that will add another 6 miles to your hike where you will visit Wilson Canyon in the San Fernando Valley, and then return via the same route. In addition to the views, you will see exotic pines, Red Penstemon, currants, gooseberries, cudweed asters, and lots of buckwheat.

Bring a camera, snacks (lunch if you're adding mileage on), poles, and lots of water. Dress a little warmer as it is always cooler and windier on the ridge.

Meet at the Walker Ranch Trail head at 8:30AM, where we will leave cars and carpool to the actual trail head up on the ridge by Camp 9. DIRECTIONS: Exit SR-14 at Placerita Canyon Road. Turn right if you are coming from Valencia. Go about 4 miles (about 2 miles PAST Placerita Nature Center Entrance). You will see a Wooden Sign on the right that says "Walker Ranch". Park in this turn out.

Leader: Dianne

• Oct 2nd Native Garden Maintenance at East Canyon Native Garden

Time: 8-2

Directions: Exit I-5 at Calgrove. If you're coming from Valencia, turn right onto the Old Road. If you're coming from the SF Valley, make a left turn when you exit the freeway and go under the freeway. Continue through the signal. You will pass Towsley Canyon Ed Davis Park, the post office, and the Church of the Nazarene. IMMEDIATELY after passing the church, make a right onto an asphalt driveway. Here you may see some "Valencia Mover" trucks. Make an immediate left on the service road. You will see a green sign that says MRCA/Mountains, Recreation and Conservation Authority, and then another one that says East and Rice Canyon. Continue on the service road. Pass some corrals with horses and a gated trail head. At the end of the service road is a parking area. This is the parking area for the native garden. Parking is \$5. (\$65. Ticket if you don't pay the parking) or FREE on the street, just a few steps away. (You can exit the parking area at the very end and go back out onto the street and park)

BRING: Garden Gloves, water, snacks, lunch, hand shovel.

• Oct 15th -Hike wonderful Mt. Lowe near Pasadena. This will be a 6 mile RT hike with a 800' gain. Meet at Towsley Canyon at 8:00 for an 8:15 departure to the trail head in Pasadena. You will visit old hotel and railroad ruins, then return to the city below. If you would like to continue on your own from the hotel, you can then climb to the top of inspiration point where you will be able to see as far as Catalina, if it is clear. Bring your camera, lunch, and lots of water. Bring snacks, lots of water, camera, and your lunch. To meet at the trail head, take 210 East to Lake Avenue in Pasadena. Exit, turn left, follow this road all the way to the end. (It will turn left and become a different road. Don't make this turn) Park on the street. We'll meet at the big iron gate on the corner of this turn.

Leader: Richard

Community Hiking Club (cont)**• Oct 9th -Hike to Whittaker Peak/Condor Clean up.**

This is an 8 mile hike partially on an asphalt road and then a dirt road to the top of Whittaker Peak. You will need to bring a baggie or two to put the micro-trash in. Micro-trash is bits and pieces of glass, metal, plastic. The condors eat all of this, and feed it to their young who then die. Both adults and chicks can be affected by micro-trash. Whittaker Peak is covered with it. Meet at Towsley Canyon at 8:20 (departure 8:30), or the trail head at 9:00 AM. We will work until 2:00. We will carpool into the Angeles National Forest where we will park and hike into Whittaker. Please bring your Forest Adventure pass. Bring: water, snacks, 4 plastic grocery type bags, gloves (latex are best), towel/stool/garden chair to sit on, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, lunch.

Bring: water, snacks, 4 plastic grocery type bags, gloves (latex are best), towel/stool/garden chair to sit on, wet wipes, hand sanitizer, lunch. Wear warm clothing if it is cold. Whittaker Peak is known for being the windiest spot in our area, and one of the coldest, so dress in layers.

Directions: Go north on I-5 to Templin Hwy. Exit. Turn left. Go under the freeway, and turn right on Golden State Road. Follow this road until you see an old forest sign that says Whittaker Peak. The sign will be on the LEFT side of the road. Park here. This is where we will meet.

• Oct 22nd -Jolla Cyn at Pt Mugu State park in the Santa Monica Mountains near Camarillo. This hike will be a fast-paced 11 mile loop with apx. 800 ft elevation gain during the climb to the top of Mugu peak (1260').. While the waterfall will likely be dry, there are views of the ocean and the Boney Mtns. Bring water, lunch, bug spray, and good hiking boots.. The parking fee is \$12 at the trailhead. Also, while people often brings dogs here to hike, as this is a state park, they are officially prohibited. Meet the leader at Towsley Cyn for a 6:30AM departure, or at the trailhead parking lot at 7:30AM.

To get to the trailhead, drive up the coast north on PCH from Malibu. About 1.5 miles north of Big Sycamore Canyon campground on the right is the Ray Miller Trailhead, which is used to access La Jolla Valley, (La Jolla Valley in Point Mugu State Park 9000 W Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu, CA 90265). An alternative route that we will be using from Santa Clarita, that seems to be faster, is to take the 101 Fwy to Camarillo. Exit S. Las Posas Rd (near the outlet stores). Follow Las Posas Rd to PCH. Go South on PCH. Pass Pt Mugu Rock and the turn for the Ray Miller Trailhead will be the first left. If you see the Big Sycamore Cyn campground, you have gone too far.

Leader – Nikki

• Oct 29th -Bridge to Nowhere was built in the mid-1930s, and was meant to connect the San Gabriel Valley with Wrightwood. In 1938, Azusa got 14" of rain in 1 hour, which all drained into the East Fork of the San Gabriel River. A 100 Foot wall of water was the result, which washed out the road to the bridge, and ended the road project forever, leaving the bridge (which hangs high at 125 feet above the river) truly, to lead nowhere. Now the bridge is used as a bungee jumping outpost. So, we may get to see some jumpers when we are there. A note about the trail: The trail in some places may be non-existent. There may be times that we are bouldering, climbing up rocks and cliffsides, wading through knee high to waist high water (depending upon the rain prior to our hike), or walking on bits and pieces of the old road. There are areas where the trail is single track and overgrown, and areas where it is as wide as a dirt road. Carrying a dose of good humor and a sense of adventure with you is imperative. The trail has changed every time I've been there.

Wear: shorts, or pants that will dry fast. You WILL GET WET. Wear water shoes. You will have at least 14 river crossings, and you will not have time to continually change your shoes. Wear warm clothing on top if it is cold. Put sandals or flip flops in your pack to wear when you get to the bridge to allow your feet to dry out while we eat lunch.

Bring: POLES!!!!A change of clothes, shoes, socks to change into when you get back to the car. Bring a throw to put over you if it is cold. Bring a towel to dry yourself off. Bring lunch, snacks, electrolytes/energy gu or candy, plenty of water (at least 2 liters, up to 4 liters). Band-aids (sand from the river can get into your shoes and irritate your skin). Wear a hat. Bring sunscreen if it is warm.

Meet at Ed Davis Towsley Canyon Park outside the Gate at 6:45 for a 7:00 AM carpool departure , or meet at the trail head at approximately 8:00AM.

Directions: Take The 210 freeway East to Hwy 39. Exit Azusa Canyon Road. Turn left. Follow this road into the canyon. Turn right over the East Fork bridge and proceed to the end of the road. There is a small parking area so get an early start, otherwise you will be forced to park along the road (making your hike back to the car that much longer). If you are driving, you MUST have a Forest Adventure Pass. Day passes are \$5 (Sporting Goods stores or Ranger Stations have them). You WILL get a ticket if you don't have one.

We will meet at the GATE on the right side of the parking lot

Community Hiking Club (cont)

• Oct 30th Native Garden Maintenance at East Canyon Native Garden

Time: 8-2

Directions: Exit I-5 at Calgrove. If you're coming from Valencia, turn right onto the Old Road. If you're coming from the SF Valley, make a left turn when you exit the freeway and go under the freeway. Continue through the signal. You will pass Towsley Canyon Ed Davis Park, the post office, and the Church of the Nazarene. IMMEDIATELY after passing the church, make a right onto an asphalt driveway. Here you may see some "Valencia Mover" trucks. Make an immediate left on the service road. You will see a green sign that says MRCA/Mountains, Recreation and Conservation Authority, and then another one that says East and Rice Canyon. Continue on the service road. Pass some corrals with horses and a gated trail head. At the end of the service road is a parking area. This is the parking area for the native garden. Parking is \$5. (\$65. Ticket if you don't pay the parking) or FREE on the street, just a few steps away. (You can exit the parking area at the very end and go back out onto the street and park)

BRING: Garden Gloves, water, snacks, lunch, hand shovel.

Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association

(818) 773-3555

FACEBOOK: CORBA www.corbambt.com

- Oct 1st free mountain Biking Skills Clinic
- Oct 1st Take a Kid Mountain Biking
- Oct 3rd COSTAC Monthly meeting
- Oct 26th CORBA Members' Meeting
- Nov 13th Corba Fat Tire Fun See page 3

Since the trail re-opened in May this year, El Prieto has seen heavy use by cyclists eager to get back to the trails they love. Recently there have been a few complaints from hikers being startled by bicycles on El Prieto.

CORBA donated to the Forest Service a set of IMBA multi-use trail guideline signs to be installed on El Prieto. Signs are needed to help inform and remind cyclists to be aware of other trail users and slow down and yield to hikers and equestrians. If cyclists want respect on the trails, we have to give respect to other trail users. IMBA'S "Rules of the Trail" are the standard to which we need to hold ourselves and our fellow riders.

Banner Moffat of the Friends of El Prieto and Steve Messer from CORBA spent Thursday afternoon, August 25, carrying in the signs, posts and tools. They installed the first sign near the picnic bench mid-trail that afternoon. The remaining signs at the top and bottom of the trail were installed by Banner and volunteer Ben Bertiger the following day.

Friends of El Prieto Trail

bannermoffat@earthlink.net

Steve Messner of CORBA and Banner Moffat of "Friends of El Prieto" after installing right of way signs on El Prieto Trail



Friends of Hahamongna

www.fohwp.org

Go here to receive E-mail news about the park: <http://www.fohwp.org/id18.html>

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Haramokngna American Indian

Cultural Center www.haramokngna.org

Kat katcalls@aol.com

- Oct 1st Ancestors Walk/pilgrimage
- Oct 1st/2nd Antelope Valley Indian Museum Festival Celebration
- Oct 9th Prickly pear workshop at Haramonkngna
Time: 11-4 Suggested donation \$10

We are open Sat & Sun from 10 -4, and by appointment for groups during the week. We now have an answering machine (if the electricity is working) at the Center – 663-449-8975.

We have resumed our land management practices - with our "culture club" - gathering the bounty of the mountains and using those materials for material culture. For more info on the culture club call Kat at (626) 449-8975

HABITAT WORKS

Kim Clark or Tom Persons 818-353-4653

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

- Oct 22nd/23rd San Joaquin Kit Fox Habitat Restoration. Wind Wolves Preserve

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/community-life/parks/342-monrovia-canyon-park>

High Country Riders

Forest wide equestrian volunteer group that patrols trails and can pack Trash, Rubbish, Equipment, Material and Supplies etc...to your Trail or worksite.

Contacts:

Jonathan Schultz a Forest Certified Animal Packer, Master Teacher for "LNT", Chainsaw & Crosscut Saw Certified Volunteer.

951-830-3400 maujds@earthlink.net

Glen Foster 760-868-8313 or 760-508-0344

Or **Dave Ewbanks** 909-489-5470

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

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

Kathie Reilly 818-354-8321 (JPL)

626-798-7256 (home)

Jack Russell 562-861-3187

- Oct 1st outing
- Oct 22nd outing

We will continue working the San Gabriel Peak Trail, both North and South, and if not accessible, go back to working Mt Lowe East Trail. They all need tread repair, but at least the Poodle Dog seems to be dying back.

Mt Disappointment 50K Conservation Group

www.mtdisappointment50k.com

Gary Hilliard, Director

gary@mtdisappointment50k.com

Director has Broken Back, will return November 2011.

Mount Wilson Bicycling Association

<http://mwba.org/>

Ray Herrera ray@pmbc.org

765-RIDE (yes, that's our new number)

- Nov 6th Get yer pancakes! 'Tis the season for pancakes. See the flyer on page 3

The Mount Wilson Bicycling Association was founded to be advocates of responsible trail use for mountain bikers in the San Gabriel Mountains. We are a part of Save the Trails, an umbrella group for trail advocacy in and around the San Gabriel Valley, and cooperate with CORBA, IMBA, Pasadena Mountain Bike Club, Mt Disappointment Endurance Run, and others.

Monrovia Canyon Park

Volunteering at Canyon Park

Have you always wanted to be a park ranger sharing your love of nature with others? Here is your chance to fulfill dreams! Training will be provided to help you become a volunteer, who will foster an appreciation, understanding and respect for nature for those visitors who come to Monrovia Canyon Park.

The benefit package included children's smiles and laughter, hikers who appreciate your clearing of trails, city folks whose facial expression relax and attitude change as they find a respite from the hurried world below.

Contact the Nature Center at 626-256-8282 for more information and an application.

Mount Wilson Institute<http://www.mtwilson.edu/>

P. O. Box 1909 Atlanta, Georgia 30301-1909 (404) 413-5484

FACEBOOK: The Cosmic Cafe at Mt. Wilson Observatory**The Observatory is open** to public visitation daily from 10 am to 4 pm, April through November.Go to <http://www.mtwilson.edu/60in.php> to make early reservations for 60-inch telescope observing sessions for the 2011 season.**The Cosmic Cafe is open** every Saturday and Sunday, and some holidays 10am-4pm**We Need Your Support** - Mount Wilson Observatory is privately owned and receives no continuing state or federal support. You can help ensure the continued operation of this science heritage site with your tax deductible gift in one of three ways. Go to <http://www.mtwilson.edu/Support.php> to find out how you can help preserve and revitalize this world-class treasure of science and engineering.**Outward Bound Adventures**

2020 Lincoln Ave. Pasadena, CA 91103

FACEBOOK: Outward Bound Adventures <http://www.obainc.info/>**Outward Bound Adventures has numerous opportunities for volunteers, both administrative and for outings.****To inquire about opportunities, please e-mail us using the contact form at**<http://www.obainc.info/Contact-Us.htm> and hit the send button or call us at 626.564.0844.

- **Do you want to make the world a better place? Want to work with young people? Do you want to create opportunities for people in need? Want to work outdoors? Want to train the leaders of tomorrow?**
- **We run programs throughout the year with a slow period during the months of November and December.** We encourage those with a passion to serve our youth and community to call us for current openings. Outdoor experience is not required.

Pacific Crest Trail Association**FACEBOOK: Pacific Crest Trail Association** <http://www.pcta.org>contact: info@pcta.org**PCTA**

1331 Garden Highway

Sacramento, California 95833

- **Oct. 21-23 Board Meeting**
- **Oct 16th-23rd Pacific Crest Trail - Cajon Pass to Agua Dulce (Section D - 112 Miles)**

Mark your calendars for the **Southern California Trail Skills Colleges**See **Page 4**

- **Oct 15th- 16th at Oak Creek Canyon outside of Tehachapi, California**
- **Nov 5th-6th at the Angeles National Forest, California**



San Bernardino National**Forest Assoc.** www.sbnfa.orgGeneral Information: smiggins@fs.fed.us

602 South Tippecanoe, San Bernardino, California 92408

Sarah Miggins, Executive Director (Discovery Center Office)

P.O. Box 66, Fawnskin, CA 92333

909-382-2796

Since 1993, we've worked to complement the mission of the US Forest Service. We develop new resources and partnerships that create new opportunities, particularly through the efforts of volunteers, for conservation, education, and recreation that have added value to the forest's role as public land.

For more calendar details go to:**<http://www.nationalforestassociation.org/index.php?ev=2455778&mo=10&yr=2011>**

- **Nature Walks** Oct 1st/2nd/8th/9th/15th/16th/22nd/23rd/29th/30th
- **Lake Arrowhead Youth Volunteer Meeting** Oct 5th
- **Big Bear Youth Volunteer Meeting** Oct 8th
- **Arrowhead Communities Fire Safe Council** Oct 13th
- **Wrightwood Fire Safe Council** Oct 18th
- **Mountain Rim FSC: Crest Forest Chapter** Oct 20th

SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY<http://www.mtlowe.net>**Brian Marcroft****562-868-8919****E-mail: Emworks@verizon.net****SAN GABRIEL TRAILBUILDERS**<http://www.sgmtrailbuilders.org><http://www.crystallake.name>

To volfeedback@crystallake.name

Helen Oakley: 626-792-4573

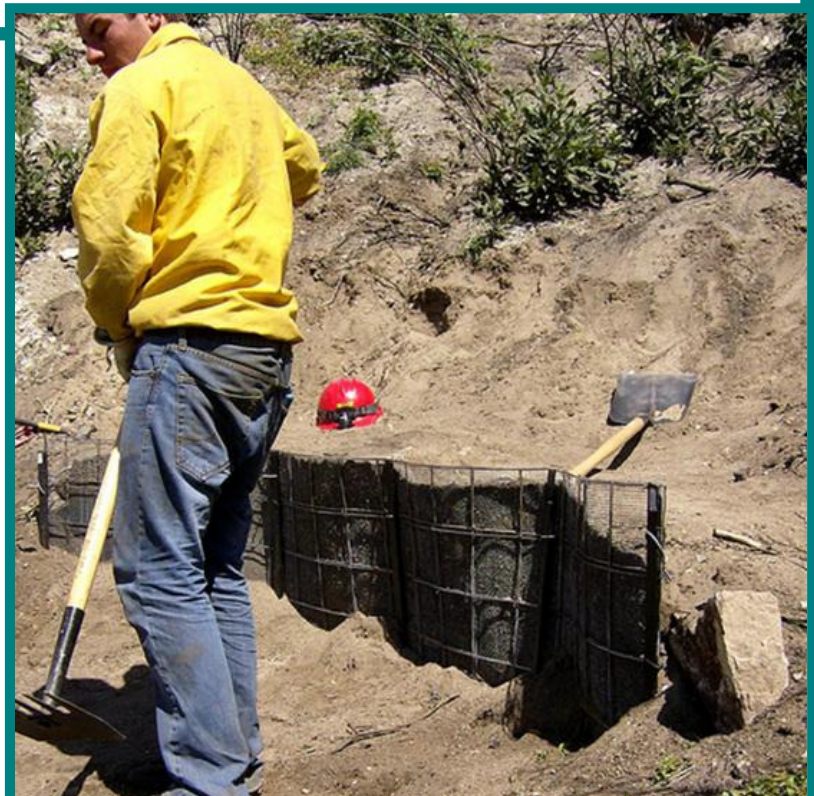
Ben White: 626-303-1078 |

ben@SGMTrailbuilders.org

For this summer and fall 2011, we are continuing to work on the trails in the newly reopened Crystal Lake area. We work on the first, third, and fifth Saturday of each month

Trail working volunteers may join the San Gabriel Mountains Trailbuilders in the continued restoration process for trails in and around Crystal Lake and if you would like to volunteer your time, please send email to feedback@crystallake.name and I will let you know when, where, and what you need to know to join us.

NEW MEETING LOCATION: San Gabriel Canyon Gateway Center,
1950 North San Gabriel Canyon Road (Hwy 39),
Azusa, CA 91702.



William S Hart student learning how to build mesh walls

Sierra Club-Pasadena Group P.O. Box 94086 Pasadena, CA. 91109-4086

For more calendar details go to http://www.angeles.sierraclub.org/pasadena/outings_3mos.html#oct

- Oct 1st Bear Cyn Poetry Hike:
- Oct 5th Monthly Meeting: Author **John Robinson** presents "**The Origin of Yosemite Valley; Josiah Whitney vs. John Muir; A Scientific Controversy of the 19th century**". Information on Group's hikes, outings, and conservation activities. Newcomers always welcome. 7 pm social hour, 7:30 pm program at Eaton Cyn Nature Ctr, 1750 N Altadena Dr in NE Pasadena.

For information contact Group Chair: **ELIZABETH POMEROY**

- Oct 6th/13th/20th/27th Henninger Flats Conditioning Hike
- Oct 8th Eaton Cyn Gardening and Trail Work
- Oct 8th Moonrise...sunset, with Dinner
- Oct 15th Mt Williamson (8244'), Pallett Mtn (7760+')
- Oct 16th Autumn in the Arroyo Seco-Newcomer's Hike
- Oct 22nd Fall Colors at Liebre Mtn
- Oct 22nd Stairways Walk in Echo Park
- Oct 29th Frankensteinish" Frankish Pk (4198')

Tree People <http://www.treepeople.org> 12601 Mulholland Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Telephone (818) 753-4600 Fax (818) 753-4635

FACEBOOK: Tree People

For more calendar details go to: <http://www.treepeople.org/calendar/2011-10>

- Oct 1st/16th Community Orchard Care
- Oct 1st Community Organization Care
- Oct 1st Street Tree Care
- Oct 8th Community Organization Planting
- Oct 15th Santa Monica Mountains Restoration Supervisor Training
- Oct 8th/15th/16th/22nd Santa Monica Mountain Restoration
- Oct 8th/13th/20th/27th Park Workday
- Oct 11th Full Moon Hike
- Oct 15th Community Greening Workshop - EcoClub Roundtable
- Oct 20th Third Thursdays

Are you interested in learning about Tree People's programs and volunteer opportunities? Want to connect with Tree People staff and volunteers? Come to Third Thursdays at Tree People, which

takes place - well - every Third Thursday of every month at Tree People

- Oct 22nd Street Planting
- Oct 20th Waste Reduction and Recycling Workshop

Wednesday Hiking Club

- Oct 8th Outing

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

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

Kevin Sarkissian

ksarkiss@hartdistrict.org

661.259.0033 X 525

www.hartrop.com/forestry

Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest Wrightwood, CA

<http://www.grassyhollow.net> grassyhollow@hotmail.com

Visitor Center Phone #: (626) 821-6737

Loren Lake lorenll@verizon.net

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

TUNDRA by Chad Carpenter Los Angeles Times May 9, 2011 email: info@tundracomics.com



Volunteer Today

Send this in Right Away to

Gerald Reponen —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 / habitat restoration and tree planting

Other: _____

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