



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 July, 2004

Volume 2 issue 7

GREETINGS

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE HEARTBEAT OF THE FOREST SERVICE.

National Trails Day was a huge success, as the weather cooperated, the lunch menu was great, the entertainment was good and the high point of the day was the recognition of your efforts in providing a quality recreational experience on the Angeles National Forest. I want to thank all of you for participating in maintaining the trails, serving lunch, our partners who provided food, displays and raffle prizes and especially those individuals and groups, who were recognized for their contribution in making the Angeles National Forest a wonderful place to visit.



During the morning, I hiked the Mt Wilson Trail and Sturtevant Trail and it was wonderful meeting many of you and observing your dedication in providing a quality recreational experience.

I've noticed that our monthly meetings have become a wealth of information and ideal sharing that's helping both the Forest Service and you in producing a quality volunteer program. I want to acknowledge Guy Kuhn for his effort in producing this newsletter, Brian Marcroft for his leadership in conducting the meetings, Tom Dwyer for providing Health & Safety discussion topics, Patty Dwyer and Robin McGuire for snacks and the rest of you who provide input to these meetings. When I hear compliments about the professionalism of this meeting, I can only tip my hat to all of you.

At our next meeting, we've scheduled a Fire Prevention Officer to address your concerns about Fire Prevention and your role.

Fire Indices are very high to extreme for Southern California which is abnormally early for this time of year. Therefore it's important for you to keep informed of the current fire hazard rating when planning your outings and keeping us informed of your work location should an emergency situation happen.

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

I look forward to meeting many of you at either our monthly volunteer meeting (3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm) or at one of your scheduled work projects. Again THANK YOU for your dedication to Caring for the Land and Serving the People.

Howard S. Okamoto
Angeles National Forest
Los Angeles River Ranger District
Recreation Officer

NOTICE:

Road to
Chantry Flat
closed for
needed repairs
June 7 - Sept 30

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Volunteer today?

can you
help me?



go to page 8
to see how!

July CALENDER

1. July 21st 7:00 PM
VOLUNTEER GROUP MEETING
Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the Wild wood Picnic Volunteer House.
2. July 21st 5:00 PM
California Trail Users Coalition meeting
3550 Foothill Blvd, Glendale
www.ctuc.info
6. July 31st
Take a walk and learn more about the forest. Meet at the San Gabriel Canyon Environmental Education Center on Highway 39. Donation is \$5.00 per person. Adventure Pass not needed.
You must RSVP with Steve Segreto at 626-335-1251, ext. 225 or 909-982-2829. This tour is limited to 35 people.
- 7 July 31st
Last Saturday of each month requires No Adventure Pass.

Haramokngna Schedule of events
Saturday, July 3 – Guest Host
Saturday, July 10 - Hands-on activities
Saturday, July 17 - Hands-on activities
Sunday, July 18 – Second Sunday, one week removed – Ted Garcia,
Chumash – soapstone carving workshop
Saturday, July 24 -Hands-on activities
Saturday, July 31 – Hands-on activities

For a E-mail newsletter, Send an e-mail to guykuhn@earthlink.net and notify where the newsletter is to be sent. We need to know who you are when sending it by E-mail to avoid duplication with a hard copy

If you need help or more information on what to do contact:
guykuhn@earthlink.net

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

Send news to
GUYKUHN@EARTHLINK.NET

ANGELES MOUNTAIN BIKE PATROL

mmcguirepoolspa@cs.com

Our mission is to provide educational and a responsible image to all trail users. To encourage rider's along with monthly trail work to obey forest regulations. Working to preserve and protect trails. A.M.B.P are here to serve assist and inform the public.

Next outing will be July 31.
(last Saturday of the month)

ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION (ANFFLA)

<http://www.anffla.org>

<http://www.angeleslookouts.org>

George & Pam Morey 909-338-3923

Applicants from the community willing to volunteer as a Fire Lookout for the 2004 fire season can apply for training with the ANFFLA.

July 15. Chris Nyerges
Learn about the feast in your own backyard.

California Trail Users Coalition

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) www.corbamt.com

On Saturday July 10th come spend the day with us when we return to the top end of Rogers Road. We'll start at the 're route' section, and do brush work as far as we can. If we're lucky, and we have a good turnout, we may make it all the way up to the crest (right before the long rocky descent).

Join One Today

VOLUNTEER GROUP NEWS

HATHAWAY SCHOOL

ksarkissian@hathawaychildren.org

Work will be completed on the Boulder Creek Trail by Memorial Day weekend. No trail work will be scheduled from June 17th until July 9th due to summer recess).

Hathaway's summer work program will kick into high gear the week of July 12th, Monday through Thursday 3-7pm, with a crew of 21 students.

We plan to turn our attention back to the lower part of the Gold Canyon trail for the duration of the summer. Currently we're at 7000 feet of the 10,400 feet scheduled to be cleared. The work on this trail is, in a word, straight up "gnarly". Even with a crew of fourteen, we're only able to average about 50 feet of tread a day (even with power equipment!) Any help offered, especially an additional certified power saw operator, would be greatly appreciated.

JPL TRAILBUILDERS

Next outing July 24

We continue to work Mt Lowe West Trail. We can also work on completing the trail project not finished on California Trails Day.

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

Jack Russell 562-861-3187
<http://www.jplrecclubs.caltech.edu/hiking/>

Monrovia Canyon Park

626-256-8282

July 3, 2004 Annual Butterfly Count

http://www.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

Pacific Crest Trail Association

(PCTA) <http://www.pcta.org>
Phone: (916) 349-210
for info info@pcta.org

SIERRA MADRE AREA SINGLES (SMAS)

Hike to Henninger Flats.

July 14 & July 28.

Richard Nyerges (626) 285-0962

EMAIL: nyerges@spcgobal.net

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

THE SCENIC MT. LOWE RAILWAY

On July 4, 1893 was the opening day of the Mt. Lowe Railroad. A Los Angeles times reported the grand opening on page 8 in the July 5, 1893 edition.

To learn what has happened to the railroad go to <http://www.mtlowe.net>

To help in preserving the historical railroad contact:

John Harrigan

626-968-5092

jnsharrigan@earthlink.net

Brian Marcroft

562-868-8919

emworks@pacbell.net

Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement (EASI)

EASI is looking for individuals that like to travel, that enjoy the outdoors, that want to help preserve the environment and that are interested in making a difference. EASI needs volunteers that have experience in all science areas.

We need biologists, hydrologists, geologists, ornithologists, taxonomists, entomologists etc.

If you have a science, education, computer, or other special skill, we can put you to work as a Volunteer Natural Resource Laureate in our national parks.

If you are interested, please send an e-mail to

Tom@easi.org.



VOLUNTEER EVENT NEWS

Angeles National Forest Trivia – San Gabriel Mtn.

Not all that is shiny and yellow is gold in the angeles forest. It is a mineral called Pyrite commonly called "Fools Gold" because of its similarity in color, shape, and habit to Gold. In the old mining days, Pyrite was many times confused with Gold, even though they can be easily distinguished.

Want to learn Helicopter rescue?

There are plans for a 1 to 1½ hour training class by the L.A COUNTY SHERIFF AIR5 HELICOPTER training at the Barley Flats Heliport.

There is no set date yet. There has to be at least 20 volunteers to have this class.

If interested call Tom Dwyer at 818-246-2963 and leave your name and phone number.

Antonovich Trail Dusters Trail Ride

Photographer : Patricia Dwyer



Tom Dwyer clearing brush from the event area

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Photographer : George Aumann

Photographer : Patricia Dwyer

PLENTY OF WORK



PLENTY OF FOOD



VOLUNTEER AWARDS

American Land Conservation Award

The Catto Charitable Foundation established the American Land Conservation Award in 1996 to recognize outstanding volunteer leadership in land and water conservation.

The Award honors a volunteer conservationist for his or her outstanding individual leadership and distinguished service to preserving and protecting the nation's natural and historic resources for the benefit of their communities and future generations. Recipients of the Award are recognized for building partnerships that lead to the preservation of open space, wildlife habitat, and sites that preserve a sense of place. Recipients are honored for their work to protect coastlines, river corridors, forestlands, farmland, rangeland, and historic sites.

The Prize

As the nation's largest prize to a volunteer in conservation, the Award's \$50,000 prize is administered by The Conservation Fund and presented to a citizen conservationist by the Catto Charitable Foundation.

To Apply

Be quick! Must be done by July 21! Go here to get the Award Nomination form:

<http://www.conservationfund.org/pagespinner.asp?article=2505&back=true>

The 2004 award will be announced at the Land Trust Alliance Rally, held in Providence, Rhode Island, October 28-31.

For more information: <http://www.conservationfund.org/>

VOLUNTEER NOTES

5 Things to Know Before Interacting With The Public

1. **ATTITUDE** – Having a good attitude can save your life when talking to the public. If your experiencing stress at work or at home or just simply having a bad day you should maybe let somebody else do the talking.
2. **APPEARANCE** – A clean, ironed, professional looking uniform can demand the respect of the public therefore making your duties easier. Standing straight and walking with confidence can ward off any unwanted confrontations.
3. **APPROACH** - Take command of the scene while maintaining a friendly professionalism. Introduce yourself as a volunteer with the Forest Service. Don't try to be or appear to be somebody you are not.
4. **POSITIONING** – Strategically stand in a safe position. Do not allow public to stand too close to you. Maintain a visual on all of the public that you are speaking to. If need be ask them to stay in front or maintain their distance for both yours and their safety.
5. **KNOWLEDGE** – Have knowledge of forest rules and regulations in general and specifically for your area. Current fire restrictions, Ad Pass sales, off roading, fishing etc... If you do not know the answer to a question be prepared to refer them to the District Office with phone number.

RATTLESNAKE PRECAUTIONS ON THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

A few notes from Sherry Rollman, Kathy J. Peterson and Robert Brady

Rattlesnake description, venom, and some behaviors

A rattlesnake is a heavy-bodied, blunt-tailed snake with one or more rattles on the tail. It has a triangular-shaped head, much broader at the back than at the front, and a distinct “neck” region. The rattlesnake also has openings between the nostrils and eyes, which is a heat-sensing pit. The eyes are hooded with elliptical pupils.

Rattlesnakes can be 5-6 feet long, but they average 3-4 feet long and are brown-grayish, greenish w/large blotches of lighter hues. Rattlers have a shovel-shaped head with a definite outline from their body. Other snakes have a rounded head that conforms to their round body. The Pacific rattlesnake is found on the Angeles. The Pacific rattlesnake is the most common on the Angeles National Forest up to the 10,000 foot elevation. It has primarily hemotoxic venom (destroys tissues).

They hibernate in “snake dens” in crevices of rocky ledges and come out in May or June. They will come out sooner if warm weather arrives early. Mating occurs in spring (watch out for the other one). Newborns have venom and are dangerous; they are pugnacious and will strike repeatedly.

Avoiding snake bites

•Most snakebite cases occur when people try to catch, capture, tease, handle, kill, or deliberately provoke snakes!

- Avoid stepping on snakes, cornering, surprising, or accidentally touching snakes.
- The majority of snakebites occur on the hands, feet and ankles.
- watch your step! Don't put your feet or hands anywhere you can't see first.
- Step on logs and big rocks, not over them as there may be a snake on the other side.
- Turn rocks or boards over with tool instead of bare hands.
- Wear high top footgear or boots when hiking in the mountains or brush areas.
- Watch out for snakes in early evening when things cool down.

If bitten

Get to a doctor as soon as possible, but stay calm. Frenetic, high-speed driving places the victim at a greater risk of an accident and increased heart rate. If the doctor is more than 30 minutes away, elevate the bite and then try to get to the doctor as quickly as possible.

- Remain calm and inactive;**
- Don't make incisions over the bite;**
- Wash the bite area gently with soap and water**
- Remove watches, rings, etc, which may constrict swelling**
- Immobilize the affected area**
- Don't constrict flow of blood;**
- Don't put in ice water;**
- Use suction cup device to extract venom ONLY if medical help is several hours away.**

Some other things to know about rattlers

- There's an average of less than 30 people bitten annually. Less than 1% are fatal;
- On average, one-third of all snake bites are called “dry” bites, which contain no venom;
- Bites are defensive, not aggressive;
- Rattlers can strike without coiling, can turn-and-bite, and can bite when stretched out;
- They can strike one-third to one-half of their body length;
- Rattlers eat lizards, mice, rats, and ground squirrels, striking rather than holding prey.

Where and When to Watch for Rattlers

- Rock piles and under ledges are favorite haunts of rattlesnakes.
- Rattlesnakes are out after dark; take a flashlight on your moonlight walks.
- In the heat of the day rattlers tend to stay in the shade under rocks and bushes.
- Snakes can also be above the ground in brush or bushes, they're not always on the ground. They can also swim!
- Most of the time snakes try to withdraw and get away from people, but be alert for that distinctive “explosive sizzling buzz” that warns you to retreat.

ANGELES FOREST IN THE NEWS

Trail group victorious in court case by Kimm Groshong , Staff Writer

PASADENA — In what could be a precedent-setting decision for court cases dealing with trails in the San Gabriel Mountains, a judge ruled Tuesday that a portion of the El Prieto Fire Road in Altadena must be reopened for public use.

Judge C. Edward Simpson of the Los Angeles Superior Court in Pasadena reached a decision in favor of the plaintiff, an unincorporated association called Save the Altadena Trails, which sought access to about 200 feet of a common driveway at the north end of El Prieto Road in Altadena that leads to the Angeles National Forest. The property owners who share the driveway erected a wrought iron fence across the path in 1999.

Simpson reached his decision based on historic evidence presented by the plaintiff's attorney, Paul Ayers, including first- hand testimonials, which established the road's uninter- rupted use by the public dating back to the late 1880s. Simpson's written decision explains that what was needed to establish continuous public use was proof "that the public's use was sub- stantial, diverse and sufficient to convey to the owner notice that the public was using the passage as if it had a right so to do. The court does make that finding in this case ...'

Establishing historical public use in this kind of case requires evidence of public use for five years dating prior to March 4, 1972, based on the Supreme Court's ruling in what is called the Gion-Dietz decision.

"This is a very, very important victory in terms of public access,' Ayers said. "There is substantial historical record, similar to the kind I used to win this case,' in other areas in the foothills above Altadena where property owners are trying to keep the public from using trails, he added.

Local trail advocates said they were relieved by the decision. "It is a fantastic win and the judge clearly read the black and white letter of the law and made a good decision,' said Steve Lamb, a trail user from Altadena. The defendants' attorney, Michaeline Re, could not be reached for comment.

NEWS ABOUT TERRY ELLIS

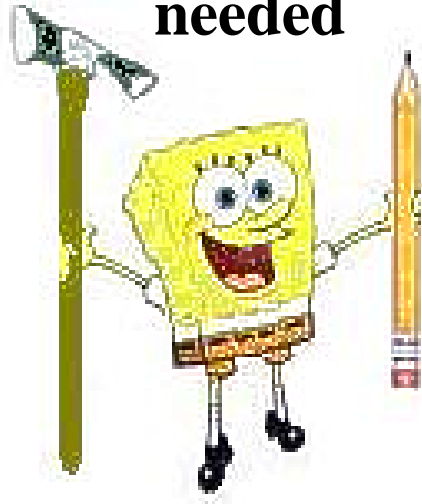
Obituary from Pasadena Star News June 23

Ellis, Terry C. of St George Utah, died June 21, 2004 at home. He is survived by his wife Jean, daughters Becky (Ron), Deborah, and Stephanie (Scott); grandchildren Rachel, Redmond, Forrest, Sierra, Jonathon, and Elizabeth; and sister and brother-in-law Susan and Ray Mapston, as well as many family and friends.

Terry retired as a District Ranger from the U.S. Forest Service in 2001 following 37 years of government service, which included being a U.S. Marine, a firefighter and a public servant in Region 5 (California). There will be a celebration of his life on Thursday June 24, 2004 at 4:00 PM at Heideman Mortuary in St George, Utah. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Dixie Care and Share or the American Diabetes Association.

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

**All kinds of
volunteers are
needed**



For all kinds of jobs

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/ Fire Prevention/ Recreation Aid /

Forest Patrol /Resource Management / Computers/ Research-Librarian /

Office Clerical / Tour guide/ Fire Lookout/ Conservation Education

Other: _____
