



## Big Pines Volunteers

# Volunteer NEWSLETTER

24537 Angeles Crest Hwy, Wrightwood, CA 92397 (760) 249-3504

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*"Caring for the Land and Serving People"*

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### Special points of interest:

- The Fire Danger has been raised to "HIGH" as of May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010.
- Mt. High had the longest season on record this winter with 186 days open.
- Michele Kraeukle is the new Area Manager and Mt. Oak / Lake Host for the Consessionaire Campgrounds. Linda and Alex are the hosts for Table Mountain.
- Hwy 2 has been reopened between Vincent Gap and Islip Saddle.

## Wildfire & Disaster Awareness Day Recap...



### "Angeles National Forest – Big Pines" Booth 2010

**Wrightwood, CA** – This year's Wildfire & Disaster Awareness Week was the most successful to date.

It kicked off on Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, with the unveiling of a new "Ready, Set, Go!" fire awareness sign that can be seen by everyone entering the town of Wrightwood on Hwy 2.

Along with many other fire agencies the USFS

was well represented. BDF Engine-33 out of Mormon Rocks was there.

In attendance from the ANF were the Engine-38 crew, Patrol-38, USFS Volunteers out of Big Pines, Smokey Bear and our District Ranger Bob Blount.

The week was capped off with hundreds of adults and children visiting the "Angeles National Forest –

Big Pines" booth on Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Children received Smokey Bear hats and other giveaways for answering questions about the forest and wildfire prevention.

According to event organizers; nearly 1,500 free hot dogs, 35 lbs of popcorn and 45 cases of bottled water were given away.

## Getting to know your Volunteers...



**Jean Jones** - Like her husband Paul, Jean grew up in Upstate New York, in the Rochester area.

The two of them moved to Wrightwood about a year and a half ago to be closer to their son Scott and his family who are also Wrightwood residents.

While Jean has worked in accounting and as an office manager, she has put her career on hold to spend more time with her young grandson.

This also allows her time to volunteer at Grassy Hollow Visitor's Center and Big Pines.

Jean enjoys working with computers and has

been helping Doug Milburn, the US Forest Service Archeologist who works out of the Big Pines station, cataloging and recording artifacts in a data base.

With the success of this year's "Passport in Time" project, Doug and Jean have plenty to do and may find themselves very busy recording the findings. *(See Pg. 4 for more on the "Passport in Time" project)*

In her spare time Jean also enjoys genealogy, calligraphy and going camping with her family.



## Safety Tips... Ticks and Chiggers...

### Prevention

- Wear light-colored clothing that fits tightly at the wrists, ankles, and waist. Each outer garment should overlap the one above it.
- Cover trouser legs with high socks or boots and tuck shirttails inside of trousers.
- Spray clothes with an insect repellent.
- Avoid walking through low vegetation if possible and do not sit on the ground or logs.
- Search your body repeatedly, especially areas with hair and inside your clothing.
- Bathe in hot, soapy water after leaving infested areas.

### First Aid

- Remove ticks with fine-tipped tweezers or your fingers. Grasp the tick as close as possible to the point of attachment and pull straight up, applying gentle pressure. If the tick's head detaches seek medical attention.
- Do not try to remove a tick by burning it with a match or using chemical agents.
- Wash the area with soapy water then cleanse with rubbing alcohol.
- If you develop signs of infection or symptoms such as fever, chills, headache, joint and muscle ache, significant fatigue and facial paralysis, seek prompt medical attention.



**Blacklegged Tick**



**Chigger**

## Big Pines History... McClellan Flats



**McClellan Flat Cabin  
#8's Garage**

**Big Pines, CA** – As you make your way up Table Mountain Road toward Mt. High North, about half way up you'll run into a grouping of old historical cabins. This is the McClellan Recreation Residence Cabin Tract.

The 13 cabins at McClellan Flat are privately owned structures that are under a Special Use Permit to occupy National Forest Land. Those who own the cabins at McClellan Flats are not allowed to reside full time there and can only use the cabins for recreation.

Most of the 13 cabins are designated as Historical sites and as a result they are carefully monitored for any activity that would change them in any way.

The McClellan Homeowners Association does a good job in keeping McClellan Flat one of the best recreation residence tracts in the nation and in seeing that it is used for its intended purpose.

External features are inventoried every year and compared with the previous year. Each year the cabin owners are asked to submit a maintenance plan. Rules are strict and they are expected to abide by the 30 pages of regulations

intended to keep the area as is.

Rumor has it these cabins were originally built and used by the LA County Board of Supervisors when Big Pines was an LA County park back in the 1920's and '30's.

The tract was named after Reuben F. McClellan who was the driving force behind the creation of Big Pines.

McClellan served as a chairman for the Board of Supervisors for Los Angeles County from 1917 until October 1928 when he was replaced by John R. Quinn because of an illness. Reuben F. McClellan died May 18, 1930.



***This Garage Roof was used as the form for the Davidson Arch in 1926***



**Dorothy Hiltabrand Swift was the first woman Ranger at Big Pines in 1926**

## Passport in Time...

*"I noticed while working in the burn area that many native plants have already re-sprouted and are growing strong. Wild flowers are everywhere because they have no competition and wildlife is already returning to the burned area."*

**Ron Heinig**



**Passport in Time (PIT)** is a volunteer program sponsored by the Forest Service which allows volunteers to participate in archaeological projects on National Forest Lands. This year's Passport in Time project was hosted by Forest Archaeologist Doug Milburn with Ron Heinig serving as assistant PIT crew leader.

This season's PIT project focused on field surveys to locate and record archaeological sites that may have been exposed due to the recent Station Fire on the Angeles National Forest. Old decadent brush and heavy vegetation was removed by the forest fire allowing an oppor-

tunity to survey areas for archaeological sites that were inaccessible before.

The volunteer's were stationed at the Big Pines Historic Barracks facility which served as the main command post, laboratory and meeting area. The project began in the last week of April and ended at the end of the first week of May. More than 10 volunteers signed up for this year's PIT. Volunteers came from as far away as Seattle Washington and Sacramento California.

The project consisted of traveling to the Station Fire burn area to conduct archaeological surveys to identify and record archaeological sites that had not been recorded before the fire.

Several prehistoric as well as historic sites were located, including Native American sites and rock cupules. It was a wonderful time for all and valuable data was obtained. [www.passportintime.com](http://www.passportintime.com)

### Weather Extremes Big Pines Station

**May 2010**

Low: 23<sup>rd</sup> 25°

High: 20<sup>th</sup> 74°

Snow 1.0in

Precipitation: .27in



**Grassy Hollow  
Visitor's Center**

## Grassy Hollow Summer Programs...

- Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM**  
**Rocking Geology Talk**  
 What's underfoot in the San Gabriel Mountains? Learn about the rock cycle and what rocks you might see when you hike our local trails.  
**Time:** Approximately 1 hour  
**Location:** Grassy Hollow VIS  
**Leader:** Bruce Garbaccio; Geologist.
- Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM**  
**Lightning Ridge Nature Walk**  
 Walk through the forest containing examples of the forces of nature that shape our region. ½ mile walk  
**Time:** Approximately 45 min to 1 hour  
**Location:** Inspiration Point  
**Leader:** Ellen Wilson;  
 Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest.
- Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM**  
**Bird Walk and Talk**  
 Learn about the local birds we can identify right from our deck at Grassy Hollow and then join us on a bird-sighting walk. 1 mile hike  
**Time:** Approximately 1- 2 hours  
**Location:** Grassy Hollow VIS  
**Leaders:** Dan Guthrie & Neil Gilbert; Audubon Society.
- Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 PM**  
**Native American Culture**  
 Learn how local plants were used by Native Americans for food, medicine, and more.  
**Time:** Approximately 1- 1 1/2 hours  
**Location:** Grassy Hollow VIS  
**Leader:** Robin Cornet;  
 Li'l Hoss & Prairie Fox Native American Presentations.



Future Rangers



c. 1925



c. 1930

**Interested in Volunteering out of the Historic Big Pines Station?**

Call: (760) 249-3504 or Email:

Aaron Katona: [akatona@fs.fed.us](mailto:akatona@fs.fed.us)

Todd Cook: [mtcook@fs.fed.us](mailto:mtcook@fs.fed.us)



*The Wrightwood Communications Group has a disaster preparedness net each Sunday evening at 6:00 pm.*

<http://www.kw6ww.com/>



*Wrightwood CERT has weekly FRS Nets on Sundays at 5:30 pm.*

<http://www.wrightwoodcert.com>



Non-profit 501 (c) (3)

**Upcoming meetings**  
(3rd Tues each month)

- Tues Jan 19, 2010
- Tues Feb 16, 2010
- Tues Mar 16, 2010
- Tues Apr 20, 2010
- Tues May 18, 2010
- Tues Jun 15, 2010
- Tues Jul 20, 2010
- Tues Aug 17, 2010
- Tues Sep 21, 2010
- Tues Oct 19, 2010
- Tues Nov 16, 2010
- Dec 2010 - No Meeting

7pm, at the Wrightwood Museum  
6000 Cedar St.  
(Old Fire Station)

Meeting Information:  
(760) 249-5248

**The Volunteers of the Angeles...**

*Meetings of the Volunteers are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the United Methoist Church located at 1543 Barbara Street in Wrightwood. All meetings are open to the public.*

**Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest**

Wrightwood, CA

<http://www.grassyhollow.net>

[grassyhollow@hotmail.com](mailto:grassyhollow@hotmail.com)

Loren Lake, President [lorenll@verizon.net](mailto:lorenll@verizon.net)



Current Fire Danger