



Big Pines Volunteers

Volunteer NEWSLETTER

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"Caring for the Land and Serving People"

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Special points of interest:

- Four more Volunteers will soon be getting their U.S. Government Motor Vehicle Operator's License, bringing the number of licensed volunteers out of the Big Pines station to six.
- Saturday, Sept 25th, is "National Public Lands Day". It is a "free" day and no Adventure Pass is required.
- Bear sightings have increased in the Big Pines Area.

The Pinyon Pine...



Pinyon Pine

Known as the "edible Pine" or the "tree of life" to Native Americans, our area of the Angeles National Forest is host to a large number of Pinyon Pines. They are especially plentiful in the Ball Flat area and along Pinyon Ridge.

The Pinyon Pine is an extremely slow-growing tree of small to medium height and is a distant relative of the Bristlecone Pine. It may reach up to 35 feet, but the norm is more likely 10 feet.

The Pinyon Pine is long-lived and can have a life span of 350 years or more. Dominant Pinyons are often 400 years old

and have been known to reach 800 to 1000 years old.

The Pinyon range is similar to the range of the Juniper, requires little water, produces beautiful cones, the nuts of which tend to be quite large for a pine and quite edible and tasty. The nuts are an important food source for birds, quails, squirrels, chipmunks, black bears and the mule deer.

The pine nuts from a Pinyon Pine have been used for food for centuries by Native Americans and later by the Spanish. The annual harvest of wild pinyon nuts



Pinyon Pine Cones



Pinyon Jay

exceeds a million pounds and is second in commercial value only to pecans among the uncultivated nuts of the United States.

The pine nuts have no "wings" and are dispersed by the Pinyon Jay, which plucks the seeds out of the open cones. Pinyon seeds will rarely germinate in the wild unless they are cached by Jays or other animals.

According to Ron Heinig, the Assistant Recreation Officer for the Santa Clara Mohave River Ranger District; "It has been years since we've seen so many pine cones on the Pinyon Pines."

Getting to know your Volunteers...



"It is always a pleasure to teach people about the forest... it's a privilege to work with the US Forest Service."

Linda Dalton



Linda Dalton

Linda began volunteering in 1990, working in the San Bernardino National forest. She worked at the Lytle Creek Ranger Station doing office work, greeting the public, etc.

She is proud to have won an award for outstanding service as a volunteer for the Forest Service. Later she was hired as a full time employee to pioneer and put into play the Adventure Pass Program

Linda was also involved in the creation of a Nature Museum Display in the lobby of the Ranger Station under the guidance of a museum curator from Canada who met with them to show the staff how to build the attractions for the visitors.

The programs included a children's gift area where they sold and

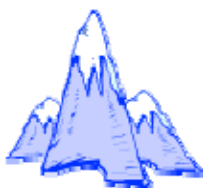
used the items as an educational tool for the children to learn about the forest. "I enjoyed putting on puppet shows and teaching special ed children about the animals in the forest", says Linda.

She now enjoys working out of the Big Pines Information Center and has been helping to create an efficient office and educational environment for the visitors so as to enhance their Forest experience.

Linda is an artist, painting landscape paintings, as well as a tribal member of the Western Cherokee Nation / genealogists.

Safety Tips... Acute Mountain Sickness...

The only cure for AMS or Altitude Sickness is either acclimatization or descent!



Acute Mountain Sickness (AMS), also known as Altitude Sickness, is an illness that commonly affects mountain climbers, hikers, skiers or travelers at high altitude, typically above 8,000 feet. Symptoms range from a mild headache and weariness to a life-threatening build up of fluids in the lungs or brain.

Approximately 20% of people will develop mild symptoms at altitudes between 6,300 to 9,700 feet. At elevations over 10,000 feet, 75% of people will have mild symptoms. The occurrence of AMS is dependent upon the elevation, the rate of ascent and individual susceptibility.

Symptoms:

- Headache, dizziness, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, disturbed sleep, Chest tightness, congestion or a cough.

What causes Altitude Sickness?

The percentage of oxygen in the atmosphere at sea level is about 21% and the barometric pressure is around 1000mb. As altitude increases, the percentage remains the same but the number of oxygen molecules per breath is reduced. At 12,000 feet the barometric pressure is only about 630mb so there are roughly 40% fewer oxygen molecules per breath so the body must adjust or acclimate to having less oxygen. In addition the lower air pressure can cause fluids to leak from the capillaries in the lungs and the brain which can lead to a fluid build-up causing coma or even death.

Prevention:

- Take it slow, don't over-exert yourself, acclimate to high altitudes, keep yourself hydrated, avoid tobacco or alcohol and eat a high carbohydrate diet.

Big Pines History... Mount Baden-Powell



Big Pines, CA – It was on May 30th, 1931 when a very old mountain got a new name.

In 1921 a man named C.F. Saunders named the 9,407 peak East Twin or North Baldy, obviously referring to it's counterpart that was to the east, Mt. Baldy. It was renamed Mount Baden-Powell, in honor of the father of scouting, Lord Robert Baden-Powell.

Returning home in 1903 from the Boer War in Africa, Lord Robert Baden-Powell found that he had become a national hero. In 1907 he adapted his book, "Aids to Scouting", which he had written

for the military, to a more youthful audience. It became very popular around the world and "scouting" was born.

On May 30th, 1931, one hundred scouts climbed and lined Baden-Powell's peak as Frederick Russell Burnham dedicated the mountain to Lord Baden-Powell,

It was also on this day that the USGS officially recognized its new name. To the northeast, hundreds of onlookers took in the sight and ceremony from present day Grassy Hollow campground.



Dedication Day May 30th, 1931
From present day Grassy Hollow



Dedication Day May 30th, 1931
100 scouts lined the peak



Robert Baden-Powell
1857 – 1941



This dedication ribbon
was given to each
Scout that participated

Smokey Bear turns 66...



Walt Disney's Bambi was used before Smokey Bear was, in advertising Fire prevention

Weather Extremes Big Pines Station

August 2010

Low: 8th 49°
High: 24th 91°
Wind: 16th 24
Precipitation: .42in



Grassy Hollow
Visitor's Center

www.grassyhollow.net



Grassy Hollow VIS – On August 7th, Grassy Hollow celebrated Smokey Bear's birthday. Cake and refreshments were served to approximately 320 visitors who stopped in at the Grassy Hollow Visitor's Center for the festivities.

Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest were there to answer questions about Smokey Bear and the forest in general. The crews from USFS Patrol-38, Engine-38 and Water Tender-37 were also there to answer questions about the Fire Trucks on display and handout giveaways like Smokey Bear hats and activity books.

Smokey Bear began his advertising campaign in 1944 with the catch

phrase: "Smokey Says – Care Will Prevent 9 out of 10 Forest Fires". Smokey Bear's message, "Remember... Only YOU Can Prevent Forest Fires", was created in 1947 and in April 2001, Smokey's message was updated to "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires".



Smokey Bear's debut poster
August 9th, 1944

Grassy Hollow Summer Programs...

Labor Day Weekend:

- Saturday, Sept 4th, 7:30 PM**
Campfire Program!
Miner Vincent
 Join us for the 23rd presentation of this campfire program and meet the "old man of the mountain", Miner Vincent, himself. Listen to him tell stories of the gold rush and the last of the local grizzlies. Limited parking. Use your Adventure Pass, park at Mountain High North, and carpool or hike in. A flashlight and Jacket are recommended.
Time: Approximately 2 hours
Location: Table Mountain Campground Amphitheater
Leaders: Fred Hanrahan, John Cromshaw and Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest

- Sunday, Sept 5th, 10:00 AM**
Hike!
Miner Vincent's Cabin
 Hike to the actual cabin where old Miner Vincent lived.
Time: Approximately 1½ hours
Location: Vincent Gap Parking Lot
Leaders: Don & Marion Shotliff.





Scarlet Larkspur is very abundant this year



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
Todd Cook: mtcook@fs.fed.us or
Ron Heinig: rheinig@fs.fed.us



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

<http://www.kw6ww.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



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

<http://www.wrightwoodcert.com>

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.



Current Fire Danger

Volunteers of the Angeles National Forest

Wrightwood, CA

<http://www.grassyhollow.net>

grassyhollow@hotmail.com

Loren Lake, President lorenll@verizon.net