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The Newsletter of the **San Gorgonio Wilderness Association** Volume 5• Issue 3 **Winter 2001**

Services provided by the SGWA are supported by the U.S. Forest Service and your National Forest Adventure Pass. Also, major private sponsors are Alpine Meadows Camp and Conference Center (www.alpineretreat.com), Phelan Grange #607, and Defenders of the San Gorgonio Wilderness (c/o Harry Krueper)

Volunteers and Contributors Help the Public for Another Year

Our working volunteers and contributing members/sponsors made the summer of 2001 one of the best Working volunteers contributing members/sponsors once again enabled us to care for the forest and help visitors better understand and enjoy the very special and wonderful resources of the San Bernardino National Forest. Volunteer services and member contributions are essential in improving the physical and mental health of people of all ages by providing clean and safe trails and camps and by providing education in historical and natural resources. The continuing work of the SGWA ensures a safe, enjoyable source of low cost recreation for millions.

Our volunteers' service was amazing and varied as it has been for the past 20 years. Of course it is people and how well they care for others that make any program as successful as this volunteer program has been for many years. We've been very lucky to have very caring Forest Service personnel and

volunteers over the years from the Forest Service founders of our program, Dave Hood and Bob Shuker, and our SGWA founders Jim Bolson, John Flippin, Dorothy Fotheringham, Dana Klatt, Alice Krueper, Dave Hallet, Linda Roddick, Val Silva, and Dale Silvernail, to all of the great volunteers and Forest Service personnel we have today. We were lucky again this year to have a few excellent new volunteers come on to help our veterans. As a

result, volunteer accomplishments were truly unbelievable.

Volunteers donated 17,619 hours, worth over

\$420,000 to the Forest Service and the public. Volunteers protected and cleaned the forest, improved facilities and trails, and helped about 19,970 visitors with whom they had personal contact. Some of the major volunteer accomplishments in 2001 were:

 Removed thousands of pounds of litter from roads, trails, and camp sites.

- Cleaned up 66 illegal fire rings, and prevented many more.
- Presented many nature walks and talks to several hundred visitors.
- Provided lunch and fishing buddies to 80 children at the Forest Service Fish Festival.
- Put on a free forest festival for over 500 visitors.
- Operated the Barton Flats Visitor Center where volunteers contacted 9,600 visitors.
- Operated the Horse Meadows historical site where 1888 hikers were contacted.
- Opened and operated a new visitor information station at the Big Falls Picnic Area.
- Provided complete patrol of the San Gorgonio Wilderness and surrounding areas.
- Provided fishing and litter control and education along 10 miles of the Santa Ana River.
- Performed minor trail maintenance along 100 miles of trail in and around the Wilderness.
- Removed a few miles of brush and several trees from across trails.

- Patrolled and monitored mining operations in the forest.
- Provided litter control along two miles of state highway through the forest.
- Managed educational sales outlets in five locations (including two new outlets).
- Maintained an extensive web site containing forest information including weather and trail conditions.
- Operated and maintained a permanent work camp for all volunteers.
- Provided current trail/camp conditions reports for Wilderness visitors.
- Provided eight public assists to lost, injured, and/or stranded forest visitors.

Well, you get the idea. Volunteer services are amazing in quantity, quality, and variety. And that is why all volunteers were honored by the Forest

Service at our awards ceremony on October 20. Our most constant day-to-day Forest Service supporter, **Karen McKinley**, presented very special awards for **Roger Gossett**. SGWA



President and Assistant Volunteer Coordinator: Patti Gossett. Hours/Activities/Contacts Recorder; Karen Saffle, Forest Festival Director; Michael Gordon, Web Site Manager; Teddi Boston. Fish Festival Donations Manager; Mary Hart, Adopt-a-highway/trail leader; **Teri** Cappuccio and Ann Robinson, 4-Victor Editors; Val Silva, Equestrian Coordinator; **Danny Silva**, Tulake Volunteer Camp Manager; Ed and Lane Lutz and Larry and Reta Managers; Barton Flats Shoup, **Mickey** Kacherwski, **Tulake** Construction; Stan Haddox, Earl Rider, Larry Stiles, and Sheila **McMahon** for completing ten years of volunteer service: and **Peggy**

Manning for twenty wonderful years of volunteer service. Congratulations to all volunteers for another great year!!

At No Cost to YOU Help Your Wilderness Whenever You Shop Online

Whenever you shop on line through WWW.GREATERGOOD.COM/PA RTNER/SGWA 5-15% of your purchase amount will come back to the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association (SGWA) to be used only in protecting and maintaining your San Gorgonio Wilderness and surrounding forest. Prices are the same as if you went directly to the merchants' sites to buy. This is charitable giving

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FORGET TO SHOP WHERE IT MATTERS! To Help You Remember Help Your San Gorgonio Wilderness Whenever You Shop. GreaterGood.com's "Forget Me Not" is the service that never lets you forget to support your favorite cause with your everyday online activities. It's free, downloads quickly to your PC and asks if you'd like to support your favorite cause anytime you forget to start your shopping WWW.GREATERGOOD.COM/PA RTNER/SGWA. When asked, all you have to do is click "yes" and you'll automatically support your wilderness with your purchases. You always have the option to say "no" and continue on. Simply go here to download Forget Me Not:

http://www.greatergood.com/Forget MeNot

Or you can also go to www.greatergood.com/partner/sgwa and click on "Forget Me Not – free." Then download AND install the Greater Good Reminder file. It really works neat and automatically takes you to whatever store web site you type in

while at the same time insuring that the store donates a percentage of your purchase to the maintenance and protection of your wilderness.

Or, if you're a little computer challenged like me, just write WWW.GREATERGOOD.COM/PARTNER/SGWA on a little slip of paper and tape it to your monitor to remind you to start there whenever you go shopping on line.

You can also get to the GreaterGood SGWA shopping site by going through our SGWA web site at <u>WWW.SGWA.ORG</u>. But the Forget Me Not service works best in helping you remember and saving you time.

HELP YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS - you may also forward or print copies of this message for family and friends that might be interested in helping protect and maintain the San Gorgonio Wilderness and surrounding forest.

Thank you very much for your support and for your interest in the San Gorgonio Wilderness. I wish you a very happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

John Flippin, SGWA

Alpine Meadows Camp Honors Volunteers

In appreciation for all the services provided by you volunteers, Dr. Peter **Huber** and **Linda Crawford** provided the facilities of their camp and a full sitdown dinner for the 60 volunteers who were able to attend our awards ceremonies on October 20. They had also provided us with the use of their camp and two meals at our training day last May. We are very thankful for the support of Alpine Meadows Camp. It is a very good partnership that we have with Peter, Linda, and their staff as together we all help people have some wonderful experiences in the mountains.

Wildemess Forever Endowment Fund

Memorial donations were made to our Wilderness Forever Fund by Claudia and Don Chance and by Marilyn and David Christian in memory of Fay Lillian Trowbridge Legg, September 15, 1908 to October 2, 2001. Fay was the mother of **Lenore** Will. Forest Service Patrol 17 and San Gorgonio Wilderness Steward. Fay was an early member of the Defenders of the San Gorgonio Wilderness and hiked all the mountain peaks of Southern California well into her 70s. She was a registered nurse, poet, author, avid hiker, lover of nature, and a friend to all.

"Flying"
by Fay L. Trowbridge Legg
Hunching on the outgrown nest,
The fledgling can't soar out,
When rudely jostled by the rest.
Her wings are snared in doubt.

As upwardly she casts one eye, The other, earthward bound, She holds her fast. She cannot fly For looking at the ground.

She falls. Swift plummet to a bush, But not before her wings Have felt the air's firm, sustaining push. Confidence it brings.

First skimming low from bush to tree, The undulations high, She mounts exaltedly. She's learned to fly!

Pure joy! To soar, and swoop, and bank! Her bird-brain holds no doubt That she need to tarry near to thank The bird who pushed her out!

SGWA Teams with Fisheries Resource Volunteer Corps (FRVC) and Other Volunteers

The 7th annual Jenks Lake Fish Festival on September 15 was a wonderful day in the mountains for 80 children. The fishing experience was made possible for the kids by 21 Forest Service personnel, four California Department of Fish and Game personnel, and 60 volunteers. There were 30 SGWA volunteers, 14 FRVC volunteers, 10 Deep Creek Fly Fishers volunteers, and 6 Rancho Rod 'n' Reel volunteers.

In addition to being fishing buddies, volunteers from FRVC, Deep Creek Fly Fishers, and Rancho Rod 'n' Reel spent the previous Saturday rigging up 170 poles with reels, line, weights, and hooks. Lots of spares are needed for many broken and tangled lines. The SGWA volunteers, in addition to acting as fishing buddies for the kids, provided, cooked, and served hot dogs, chips, apples, cookies, and drinks for everyone.

All had a beautiful day on the lake where the kids caught 22 rainbow trout. The fish averaged about 12 inches long (three were 14 ½ inches) weighing 16 ounces. The heaviest was 23 ounces. Our deepest thanks to all the volunteers who gave of their time and energy for a great group of kids.

1000 Hours and More

The US Forest Service, represented **Karen McKinley**, Assistant Recreation Officer and Wilderness Manager, took special pleasure in recognizing SGWA volunteers who have served 1000 hours or more over the past many years. This is a tremendous accomplishment and evidence of great dedication to public as basic program our requirement is 100 hours per year. presented beautiful San Karen Bernardino National Forest Logo watches to the following outstanding volunteers:

Sylvia Anderson Phebe Baty Teddi Boston George Denney Bonnie Flippin John A. Flippin Michael Garant Kathy Greenway George Annas Ardis Beckner Sue Crowell John Dombrowski E. John Flippin Patt French Michael Gordon Jan Gudgell

Dallis "Del" Hawkins Stan Haddox Jeff Highton Mickey Kacherwski Edward Lutz Lane Lutz Cindy McGregor Joe McGregor Peggy Manning Sheila McMahon Sandy Messner Pat Peters Earl Rider Linda Roddick Karen Saffle Dan Scott Danny Silva Val Silva Jim Sirick Mary Stark Ross Stark Larry Stiles Jarome Wilson

Thank You for Your Support!!

Many who know the great value of our forest and wilderness areas may not have the time but have the monetary resources to help the SGWA continue to "Serve, Protect, and Educate." Recent contributing members to whom we and forest visitors owe many thanks are:

Regular Contributing Members

(\$20, \$15 seniors/students, or more annually)

Crystal Reddock Frank and Judy Sprinkle Terry and Pat Lavely

Trail Partners

(\$50 or more annually)

Richard Nyerges Ted Schofield Jarome Wilson

President's Club

(\$100 or more annually)

Aztec Concrete Accessories, Inc. (Jeff Church and John Gilner) Peggy Manning Ted Sledzinski

Personal Thanks From John to You

As every year at this time, I cannot help but extend my deepest thanks to the SGWA officers, board members, and volunteers for allowing me to continue coordinating your wonderful services to the public for the past year. I feel very proud and fortunate to be associated with the greatest group of

volunteers I have ever known. Everyone has different amounts of time available that they can donate to the forest. However, all the hours you donate, whether 40 or 400 are vitally important to the success of this Forest Service team.

I'll continue to stop by our office at the Mill Creek Ranger Station but will be there much less through the winter. Remember my home phone and email address are open to you all as usual. I look forward to seeing you next May. Have a wonderful holiday season, a great winter, and take care out there.

SGWA Wish List

To enable us to better serve the public we wish we had the following items. If you know of someone who would like to donate these items, new or used, please let know. Tax deductions applicable.

- Fax machine for the Barton Flats Visitor Center.
- Self-focusing slide projector with timer for nature talks.
- Copy machine for the Barton Flats Visitor Center.
- Small copier for SGWA Mill Creek office.
- Small propane tank for Forest Festival activities.
- Metal cabinet for the Big Falls Visitor Center.
- Miniature refrigerator for Barton Flats Visitor Center.
- Late model computer.
- Used trailer with shower.
- Folding utility tables.
- Folding chairs.

King of the Pines-Queen of the Sierras

Most of us know the sugar pine, unmistakable by its cones, often over two feet long, hanging off the outer ends of its branches. There are many sugar pines in the San Bernardino National Forest – their natural range extending from Mexico to Oregon and east to Nevada with 80 percent of the trees found in California. Depending on latitude, elevations range from near sea level to 10,000 feet.

Called "the most princely of the genus" by its discoverer, David Douglas (of Douglas-fir fame), sugar pine has also received royal accolades as "king of the pines" and "queen of the Sierras." What makes sugar pine so special? It is the tallest and largest of the pines, reaching heights of 250 feet and more than 10 feet in diameter. Old trees can exceed 500 years. Its wood excels in quality and value. While sugar pine is considered a soft wood, it is a very hard pine. The wood is extremely desirable, offering large, clear pieces with high dimensional stability. It is lightweight, easily milled and worked, and has a straight, uniform grain unique among pines. It is used for items like moldings, door frames, and special products like piano keys and organ pipes.

The name comes from its sweet sap, which John Muir preferred over maple syrup. Native Americans ate the sap and used the tree for a large number of purposes: seeds and bark for food, small roots for baskets, pitch for glue and gum to repair canoes and fasten arrowheads and feathers to shafts, and the needles and bark for medicinal teas.

As a historical side note, Sutter's Mill, where the California gold rush began, was built to process sugar pine logs. Most of the gold is gone, but the "king of the pines" still reigns.

(Excerpts from Forestland Steward, Fall 2001 issue, California Dept. of Forestry)



New Test for Lyme Disease

The Food and Drug Administration has cleared a simple, new blood test for Lyme disease that can be used in a doctor's office. The test provides results in an hour at the point of care, compared to the standard laboratory testing where results may be delayed for a few days. This means the doctor can make a probable diagnosis quicker and start treatment with antibiotics immediately. Positive results should then be confirmed with a Western blot test done by a laboratory.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection spread to humans primarily by tick bite. Lyme disease may have many different manifestations. It usually starts with a large, red rash at the site of the tick bite. Then flu-like symptoms may set in. It may affect the nervous system, and, in later stage, may be manifest by persistent arthritis. Diagnosing Lyme disease can be challenging because the symptoms of flu, fatigue and joint pain are similar to those of a number of other conditions.

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