

## A Take Pride in America National Award Winner

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### President's Message

#### To The Side of the Mountain

I recall my first trip up the Sky High Trail when I was about 12 years old. I was excited to be hiking San Gorgonio, the highest spot in Southern California. I was with my fellow Boy Scouts, and we were as loud and boisterous as young boys can be out in the wilderness, telling jokes and singing songs and ribbing each other when we stumbled on a rock. We were full of life and energy, out to conquer the mountain.

We were startled to come upon the wreckage of an airplane and the side of the mountain became quiet and still.

At the time, we didn't know much about the plane or when it crashed, but it was obvious that it was tragic and that lives had been lost. It was a stark reminder of our mortality. We had been told that wilderness can be a dangerous place, but it takes a lot for teenage boys to appreciate the concept of danger.

I've since learned the crash is the wreckage of a C-47 transport plane on route to March Air Field on December 1, 1952. The plane encountered the worst storm of the year and crashed 5 minutes from their destination, resulting in instant death to the 4 crewmen and 9 passengers on board.

The remaining trip to the summit was less loud and boisterous, as many of us were lost in quiet reflection.

Each time I've hiked that trail since I've stopped at the wreckage site and reflected on my own mortality. As you may recall from our last Wilderness Dispatch, I've since learned more about some of the thirteen men who died there. Researching San Gorgonio history for our Saturday evening Ranger Talks brought me into contact with the obituary of the pilot, **Capt. George F. Bingham**, a decorated pilot who served our country in the D-Day invasion of Europe.

Our last Wilderness Dispatch also found its way into the hands of **Harold Bingham** in Maryland. **Harold** was born the year his father died, and he contacted us for information. He said the family had been told the wreckage was in a remote, inaccessible area and he was surprised to learn that it was on the trail to the summit.

A plan was put together to bring the Bingham family to the side of the mountain.

We camped at Fish Creek Saddle and watched the smoke from the fire off in the distance, as **George Jr.** shared pictures and memories of the father he lost when he was nine years old. He shared that his father was a man who loved to laugh.

(continued on next page)



*Brothers George F. Bingham Jr. and Harold Bingham investigating their father's plane*

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- Defenders of San Gorgonio Wilderness (c/o Gordon Cleaver, Neale Creamer, & Harry Krueper)
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On July 13 we continued our journey. At Mineshaft Saddle we saw smoke to the south from the Millard Complex fire.

In the middle of the day we reached our destination. One of the proudest and most humbling experiences of my life was bringing Capt. Bingham's family to the side of the mountain. He left a void when he died on San Gorgonio, and I was honored to help provide a small amount of closure for his sons. Someone before us had left a small crude cross made of sticks and string. Technically, this violated Wilderness regulations, but I was not enforcing the rules that day. I thank the Bingham's for allowing me to share this experience with them.

Our Wilderness Dispatch also found its way to the hands of **Laverne Akau**, who also lost her father, **Felix Roseman**, in that crash. Laverne had been told that they never recovered the bodies of the men. I was able to share a newspaper story that described the removal of the last 3 men, one of whom was her father. She is now working out in preparation of a trip to the crash site as well.

The next time you pass the site, please observe respect for the thirteen men who perished there. Thirteen young men died on the side of the mountain, and they left voids in many lives. Jarome Wilson, President SGWA

### Whispering Pines and Barton Flats Enjoyed by All

The Whispering Pines Nature Trail and the Barton Flats Visitor Center have been in especially good condition this year for the enjoyment of thousands of visitors. Our special thanks goes out to volunteers **Pam Bailey, Teri Cappuccio, Jan Gudgell, Mary Hart, Jeff Haggard, Bill Hedekin, Janelle Kotzin, Jaimie La Pointe, Jeff Lynn, Sandy Messner, Pat Peters, Dan Riley, Walter Roth, Val Silva, Cassidy Silva, Dave and Kim Van Horsen, Faith Van Horsen, and Peter Van Horsen** for getting Whispering Pines and Barton Flats ready for a busy season. **Jeff Lynn** also moved a lot of rock and dirt deposited by winter storms to open up the access road to Horse Meadows. Thank you all for keeping trails and facilities in great shape for other volunteers and the visiting public.

### A Sunny Cool Day

The 12th Annual Jenks Lake Fish Festival organized by the San Bernardino National Forest Fisheries and Front Country Ranger District Recreation staff, the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association, the Fisheries Resources Volunteer Corps, and the Fire Education Volunteers took place on a perfect sunny cool day on September 9th. The 107 kids had one of the most beautiful days on a mountain lake that I've seen in a long time.

We had over 60 volunteers including members of the Fisheries Resources Volunteer Corps, Anaheim Rotary #921, Anaheim Convention Center, San Gorgonio Wilderness Association, and the Fire Education Volunteers. In addition, there were over 20 San Bernardino National Forest personnel led by **Sharon Barfknecht**, Wilderness Ranger. Volunteers and Forest Service personnel served a free hot lunch, helped children fish, and presented nature and fire education displays and activities. A special thanks to the crew of Engine 17, Converse Station, for cleaning about 40 fish caught by the children and for providing the children souvenir photos of them with their fish.

People coming out to spend time with the children are not the only keys to a successful event. People and organizations donating money and goods also make the event possible and

much more enjoyable for the children. Those supplying apples, sodas, hot dogs and buns, cookies, chips, and transportation through the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association included the Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim Rotary #921, Anaheim Police Activities League, 7-Up Bottling Company of Orange, and Crabill & Sons Produce of Fullerton - all pulled together by our wonderful volunteer **Teddi Boston**. Donators of significant funds for t-shirts, film for children's souvenir photos, and other supplies included **Mary Ann Schofield, Joanne Meier, Ted Schofield, the Izaak Walton League**, and the Fisheries Resources Volunteer Corps. All of these folks and many more are all essential members of our Jenks Lake Fish Festival team making life better for some wonderful children.

### Breaking News--Animals and Volunteers Give Forest Visitors A Beautiful Day

The Forest Festival on August 19 at the Barton Flats Visitor Center was full of wonderful animals and volunteers. There were three llamas wandering around, a possum, a large owl, snakes, and many other interesting animals for the enjoyment of about 400 visiting public. Also wandering around were 38 wonderful volunteers, staffing interpretive tables of all sorts, teaching children at craft tables, helping visitors saw logs for Smokey Bear brands, riding in horses for everyone to pet, teaching how to weave grass baskets, and familiarizing folks with the Osborne Fire Finder used in fire lookout towers.

Volunteer **Karen Saffle** organized and coordinated the whole affair with help from volunteers **Richard Andrus, Phebe Baty, Pam Bailey, Jane Greenawalt, John and daughter Jennifer Grzeskiewicz, Janet Gudgell, Jeff Haggard, Del Hawkins, Cindy Holman, Peter King, Lois Kuss, Donna Macklin, Dee McCoy, Robert McDowell, Cindy & Joe McGregor, Sheila McMahon, Sandy Messner, Christin Militello, Michael Mojarro, Richard Nyerges, Pat Peters, Bob & Kathy Seidenberg, Donna Schmidt, Ted Schofield, Danny & Val Silva, Beverly Taylor, the Van Horsen Family (Dave, Kim, Faith, and Peter), Bob Villa, Bob Williams, and Jarome Wilson**. Congratulations to all. A great day of fun and learning was had by about 400 visitors for free under the tall pines in the cool mountain air.

### A Terrific Camp Tulake

Thanks to many hardworking volunteers, Camp Tulake, our volunteer work camp and equestrian center off Jenks Lake Road, is a comfortable base work camp out of which patrols and work projects are accomplished all summer long. The camp is hosted and maintained by volunteers **Danny and Val Silva** with help from many other volunteers. Doing a lot of repair, modification, and maintenance work continuously are **Del Hawkins, Walt Kirkwood, Mickey Kacherwski, and Frank Stubblefield**. We thank them and all the other volunteers who enable our volunteer efforts to be much more effective, comfortable, and enjoyable.

### Can Volunteers Make Money?

Many of our volunteers sure do, they bring in funds essential for the management, administration, supplying, and equipping of our entire volunteer program. We would especially like to thank volunteer **Ted Schofield** for managing our Earth Share program which brings in payroll deduction contributions from all over the state. Ted is also donating his own time to serve as the Inland Empire Area Coordinator for Earth Share and was

recently elected to the Earth Share board of directors. Volunteers **Ardis Beckner, John Dombrowski, Sheila McMahon, Sandy Messner, Jarome Wilson, and Val Silva** have been helping Ted during the past year.

Another leader in fund raising is volunteer **Beverly Taylor** who manages our Aramark Concessionaire fund raising at various sports and entertainment events throughout the surrounding counties. Giving Beverly a hand were volunteers **Bill Carr, Christina Havens, Bob Oppermann, Larry Stiles, and Bob Williams.**

Without these volunteers doing some tough work off the mountain, we would not be having fun serving the public on the mountain. Thank you all very much.

**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:

**Basic Members** (\$25, \$20 seniors/students, or more annually)

- Rick, Nancy, Bobbie, & Danine Blake*
- Jane Calva*
- Juan G. Casales*
- Jack & Judy Donovan*
- Jane Earnshaw*
- Christian Eichelsdoerfer*
- Stanley Ellis*
- Yvonne S. Emery*
- Patricia Rae Engel*
- Margaret Giltner*
- Diana Gossard*
- Michael Hull*
- Ed & Sandy Johnson*
- Klinton & Caryn Keller*
- Gloria Madison*
- Richard McKissick*
- Martha McNulty*
- Sister Mary Miller, Justine, Christopher, & MacKenzie*
- Julie Anne Newton*
- Ray Reese*
- Frank A. Sprinkle*
- John Schimm*
- Marcie & David Whitney*
- Lorne Whittle*
- Barbara Wilson*
- Kathy Wing*
- Fred Ziel*

**Trail Blazers** (\$50 or more annually)

- John Cerasoli*
- Odos J. Clanin*
- Thomas Clem*
- Robert Coleman*
- Alan & Ann Kleinsasser*
- Mrs. John D. Koffroth*
- Holly McDorman & Patty Williams*
- David Ryal*
- Michael Sigillito*
- Karen Smith*
- Edmund B. Treidler*
- David E. Wiggs*

**Sentinel - Joint** (\$64 or more annually)

- Dee McCoy/Dave Turner*

**President's Summit Team** (\$100 or more annually)

- George & Janie Bingham*
- Mark Heiden*
- Malcolm Heppenstall, MD*
- Bob & Barbara Lehmann*
- Robert M. Myers*
- Mohan & Sandra Nair*
- Bill & Anneli Ostic*
- Michael F. Rodarte & Karen K. Swope*
- Ted Sledzinski*
- Pat & Clarinda Teixeira*
- Christine L. Zink*

**DONATIONS TO WILDERNESS FOREVER FUND** (an endowment fund from which only earnings on donations are used to protect and maintain the wilderness and surrounding forest)

**In Memory of Volunteer Sue Crowell**

- Holly McDorman and Patty Williams*
- Tom and Shirley Ruane Locke*

**Wishes Come True**

We thank the following very much for their donations. Their generosity will benefit the public greatly.

- Ardis Beckner - Folding Table and Carry Case
- Bob and Kathy Seidenberg – Electric Cash Register
- Karen Smith - Digital Camera

**Random Wilderness Patrol Reports**

Our volunteer patrols taking care of visitors and the forest in and around the San Geronio Wilderness and along the Santa Ana River run into strange and unusual incidents as well as many beautiful sights. Occasionally, volunteers note their unusual patrol experiences on their Patrol Reports. Following are just a few recent report comments.

**Everyone Acting Normal.** June 6, 2006, Forsee Creek Trail, "Picked up trash, removed small fallen branches, three mice at Johns Meadow that scampered in a normal way--plague not evident." **Ardis and Ted**

**Nature's Bouquet.** June 14, 2006, South Fork Trail, "One tree hanging eight feet over trail, ok for hikers, not for equestrians. Wildflowers out right now include wallflower, iris, larkspur, wild geranium, striped coral root, whisker flowers, prickly phlox, chaparral pea, white and purple mariposa lilies, gold fields, buckwheat, buckthorn, Indian paint brush, and popcorn flowers. All beautiful in their natural rock gardens. Lots of different squirrel types and three deer." **Ardis and Ted**

**Conditions Limit Trail Maintenance.** July 8, 2006, John's Meadow Trail, "Trail Obstructions--dead rat and half eaten baby mouse. Special Problems--Mosquito attack--had to wear insect head nets. Then thunder, rain, hail--had to take cover. That took care of insects--for a while. Trail Maintenance Performed--kicked pine cones off trail and removed a piece of cracked rock." **Teri and Mary**

**Dinner is Served.** June 11, 2006. Vivian Creek Trail. "Bear got into backpackers' food at Halfway Camp. Bear rummaged through tents, would not leave camp. Backpackers had hung food from tree--about five feet above ground." **J-D and Amy**

**Chasing Bears.** August 12, 2006. Vivian Creek Trail. "Rescued two Karelian bear dogs just below Halfway Camp. Both dogs exhausted, one unable to go far without lying down. Contacted owner through relayed calls. Returned to owner at trailhead. **Lee and Phil** (Editors Note: Dogs had escaped from

enclosure more than five miles away. Perhaps they heard about the bear problem at Halfway Camp.)

### 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 us know. Tax deductions are applicable.

- Folding metal chairs
- New portable two-way radios
- AA batteries for patrol radios
- Heavy-duty portable electronic equipment boxes for interpretive program equipment
- Digital Camera and software for nature talk programs and displays
- New entry level desktop or laptop computer
- Electronic cash register
- Standard long-handled shovels
- Gas BBQ for volunteer functions
- Steel safe

### Forest Service History

The Centennial of the U.S. Forest Service was celebrated far and wide last year. And we continue to find inspiration in the many happenings over that long and proud history. Following are a few brief reminders of the great tradition behind the Forest Service motto, "Caring for the land and serving people."

**First Hispanic Ranger - Jacinto Damien Reyes** (1871 - 1931), the first Hispanic Forest Service Ranger, escorted **Presidents William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt**, witnessed the transfer of the agency from the Dept. of Interior to the Dept. of Agriculture, and saw the Santa Barbara Forest Reserve change its name at least three times. Jacinto was a very hardy ranger who covered a lot of forest by horseback. When Jacinto retired, his tenure (1900 - 1931) was the longest by a Forest Service employee at any one station.

**Hero's Name Tool - Edward C. Pulaski**, a firefighter and hero who led 45 men to safety during the Great Idaho Fire of 1910, improved upon a tree-planting tool to create a firefighting and trail maintenance tool (broad tipped pick on one end, axe on the other, with a three foot hardwood handle) that now bears his name-the Pulaski.

**Look Out Below** - World War I brought the advent of aviation to the Forest Service. Later, delivering supplies to firefighters via a burlap parachute was first tried in 1929. Within a few years, silk parachutes were being used for cargo drops.

The idea of parachuting men to fight fire is attributed to **Ranger T.V. Pearson**, who experimented with the idea in 1934. Initial smoke-jumping experiments were conducted in 1939; and the first operational fire jump took place on the Nez Perce National Forest, Idaho, in 1940.

**Triple Nickels** - In April 1945, the 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion, known as the Triple Nickels, was America's first all-African-American parachute infantry unit. They were assigned to Operation Fire Fly to help the Forest Service combat the wildfire threat from Japanese Balloon Bombs. During Operation Fire Fly, the Triple Nickels made 1,200 jumps and helped suppress 36 fires. They are considered among the pioneers in developing forest fire suppression techniques.

**Long Live the Longhorn** - Longhorn cattle now scattered throughout the world are related to a small herd that was protected by the Forest Service in the late 1920s. **Forest Ranger William Earl Drummond and Will C. Barnes**, the

agency's assistant forester in charge of grazing, began the effort in the early 1900s when the longhorn faced extinction. Thirty longhorns were transported to the Wichita National Forest and Game Preserve, Oklahoma, which is now a wildlife refuge.

### Volunteer Pain Nets SGWA Gain

Volunteer **Beverly Taylor** decided she wanted to run a marathon. She picked the LA Marathon last March. And wishing to make the most of her time, Beverly also decided to take to pledges for donations to the SGWA for every mile she finished. Unfortunately, part way through the race, Beverly blew out a knee and had some painful issues with a foot. End of race? No way, not for Beverly. She struggled the rest of the way to achieve her own personal goal and raise several hundred dollars for the SGWA. Beverly said, "After the race I felt like I had been run over!" Not a record time, but a record effort for sure. Congratulations, Beverly, and thank you very much!

### New Volunteers for New Center

by **Dee McCoy**, Interpretive Sites Manager

It's good to be back in our Visitor Center up at Barton Flats. If you were up last year, you may remember that we were operating from the porch of the residence while they did some improvements to the building and around the outside. If you haven't yet, you've got to come up and see the New and Improved Barton Flats Visitor Center. We have a beautiful new porch and decking, accessible by wheelchair! We have some new picnic tables, new benches in the amphitheater behind the center, and, what could be the best part of the construction- **NEW PUBLIC RESTROOMS!**

We also have something new inside the Visitor Center (in addition to the new counters), and that is **Jim and Ann Lester**. They are our "live-on-grounds" hosts. They have been here for a few weeks, learning the ropes from our returning hosts, **Glenn and Marcia Riddle**. The Riddles have gone back home to Arizona now, Marcia is a teacher and school has started. So, the Lesters are taking the reins until the end of the season. Come on by the Visitor Center and welcome them to the SGWA. We know they love the area, and we hope they'll love us too so they'll come back again next year. We owe much appreciation to the Riddles and the Lesters. Without them it would be very hard to keep the Visitor Center open! It's a big thing to commit most of your summer to one place, and we are thankful for them! Jim and Ann also hail from Arizona. They love to hike, and have been revisiting places and exploring new ones here on their off days. You might also find them square dancing up in Big Bear on a Saturday night. Come on by and say hello!

### Waffles for Wilderness

**Bob and Kathy Seidenberg** are great volunteers who have specialized in taking care of the Santa Ana River. On their many patrols along the river they remove huge amounts of trash, educate visitors about the proper care of the river and forest, and hand out many Smokey Bear souvenirs to lots of young anglers and hikers.

Another of their specialties is cooking Belgian waffles. Bob and Kathy have provided two free Belgian waffle breakfasts at the Barton Flats Visitor Center so far this summer. Volunteers, Forest Service fire fighters, and other Forest Service personnel have greatly enjoyed their delightful masterpieces covered in fruit syrups, chocolate, nuts, whipped cream, etc. We all had a lot of delicious calories to burn after those breakfasts. Thank

you very much Bob and Kathy and thanks to those who made donations to the SGWA while indulging under the tall pines.

**Hey, a Little Respect Here! by John Flippin**

While enjoying the Ranger Talk programs presented by SGWA volunteers at the Greyback Amphitheater on Saturday evenings, I've been treated to the sight of many bats fluttering above the seating area. Bats have often been an unloved, misunderstood, and maligned group of animals not receiving the respect they deserve for all the good they do. So I pulled up the following information about them, most of it from an article in the Summer 2002 Forest Steward, titled "The Rodney Dangerfield of the Animal Kingdom."

In reality, bats provide great services in terms of pollination, seed dispersal, fertilizer, and, especially, insect control. One bat can eat 600 mosquitoes an hour-that's more than 3000 insects in one night. Considering there are usually thousands of bats living together in a single area, that is one big bunch of bugs eaten. Of the 27 species of bats found in California, all are insect eaters except for one that feeds on the nectar, pollen, and fruit of desert plants.

Bats are the only mammals that can actually fly (not just glide) and are long-lived (up to 30 years for some species). Bats are not rodents-they are more closely related to humans than they are to mice and rats. And bats are far from blind-they can see better than we do at night. In addition, they also have echolocation (airborne sonar) to improve their night vision and help them catch flying insects.

No, they don't try to tangle with your hair. Bats tend to avoid people. They may swoop close while catching insects, but they are not interested in your hair. Their ability to echolocate is so accurate they can avoid obstacles no wider than a piece of thread.

There are no blood suckers here. There are three species of vampire bats in Mexico and Central and South America. These don't suck blood, rather, they make a very small cut in the skin of sleeping animals-deer, horses, cattle-then lap up the blood as it flows from the wound. There are no vampire bat species in California.

Almost no bats have rabies. Like any mammal, bats can contract rabies, however, less than one half of 1% (less than one in two hundred) carry the virus. Unlike dogs, rabid bats become subdued or sleepy and separate themselves from the bat colony, often resting on the ground. Avoid touching bats as well as any other wild animal.

Bats play an important role in the forest and their presence is one indicator of good forest health. So let's spread the good news about bats in our forest and give them the well-earned respect they deserve.

**While Water Falls,  
Volunteers Rise to the Challenge  
by Dee McCoy, Interpretive Sites Manager**

Thank you everyone who has volunteered up at the Big Falls Station this year. We are about three-quarters of the way through the season and we've had volunteers at the Falls every weekend except for one day. That is A-mazing! There are a few people who have volunteered multiple days at the Falls and I thank them dearly. I also thank all the others-boy, do we have a terrific group of volunteers here in the SGWA or what?! Anyone who has not had the pleasure of a day at the Falls,

better hurry and get your reservation in! The weekends are counting down fast.

**Bill Carr, Jeff Haggard** (who brought his uncle along one day), **Bill Hedekin, Cyndi Holman, Janelle Kotzin, Lois Kuss** (many, many days), **Robert McDowell, Julie Mindiola-Petersen, Karen Saffle, Beverly Taylor, and Bob Villa** have all been at the Falls more than once, thank you very much! And of course, it was great to have back **Sylvia and Summer Beasley, Bob Oppermann with Reiko, Barbara Petite, Don Rosene, and Bob Williams** as well! We even had new volunteers do a day at the Falls-**Paul Castanedo** (more than once actually), **Peter King, and Donna Schmidt** are wonderful new volunteers. Whew! Other than my partner **Dave Turner** (thanks Dave), and myself, that is my A-mazing -list!

**Volunteer Wins Grant for Wilderness**

Volunteer **David Van Horsen's** grant proposal for wilderness ecosystem restoration was a winner. The SGWA recently received a grant from the National Forest Foundation (NFF) and Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI) Wilderness Volunteer Program. The grant is covering expenses for wilderness ecosystem restoration work and public education about wilderness stewardship.

SGWA's project is helping restore the natural wilderness ecosystem and improve wilderness recreational values of the San Gorgonio Wilderness. This is being done by identifying and documenting restoration needs and using this information for planning restoration projects. Possible restoration projects include removal of social trails and illegal camp spots adjacent to creeks, lakes or trails. Specific tasks may include removal of trail camp structures like stacked log shelters, loosening of compacted soils, placement of large rocks and logs to discourage illegal camping, and replanting. Additionally, public education in Leave No Trace principles will be conducted in the wilderness and at public events.

Inventorying of particular sites needing restoration has begun and specific restoration work is occurring in late September and October.

**LIFETIME MEMBERS**

The following people have made at least one especially generous single donation of \$600 (individuals)/\$900 (joint) or more. Their dedication to our mission of serving the public and protecting the Wilderness in the San Gorgonio area is evident and very much appreciated. Donations of this size are especially important in helping the SGWA to establish a strong and lasting program of service, protection, and education.

- David Brisban
- Gitty Denver
- Christin Militello
- Karen Saffle
- Bryan Walton
- Jarome Wilson

**Volunteers Help Youth Keep Warm**

Thank you, volunteers **Teddi Boston, Dee McCoy, Bob & Kathy Seidenberg, and David Van Horsen** for donating 23 coats and jackets to the youth of Casa de San Bernardino.

**National Trails Day Improves the Momyer Trail**

A great group of volunteers turned out for the National Trails Day project this year in early June. Along with our Forest Service trail crew, **William Bertoldi and Odos Clanin**, and Wilderness Ranger **Sharon Barfknecht**, veteran volunteers **Jeff Lynn, Steve Myers, Dan Riley, Tony Schneller, and Eric Wagner** provided their trail maintenance expertise.

We were sad to see Steve leave this summer for his new home up high in Colorado. But we are always so happy to see new volunteers filling the spaces of those who have to leave. On the Trails Day project this year were new volunteers **Richard Andrus, Peter King, Susan Macklin, and Julie Mindiola**. They got a tough initiation to trail maintenance on a hot day as the whole crew covered a lot of miles to hand-saw several trees off the trail, cut back brush, and repair trail tread.

The whole crew, regulars and volunteers, accomplished a lot for hundreds of visitors enjoying the trail this summer. And the new volunteers learned what many hikers know--the steep and hot, open and dusty lower portion of the Momyer Trail hides some of the most beautiful, lush, wet areas of the Wilderness.

**Jeanne Wade Evans - New Forest Supervisor**

Relatively new, **Jeanne** took over at the beginning of 2006 and has not had much time to rest since. With the move to the new San Bernardino National Forest Supervisor's Office building and several large fires already this summer, Jeanne has had her hands full.

Jeanne was previously the National Program Manager for Fuels in the Forest Service's Fire and Aviation Management staff in Washington DC. Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Bernie Weingardt said, "Jeanne's national leadership experience in programs to reduce hazardous fuels and rehabilitate burned areas will be a real asset in her new job. Combined with her extensive field experience in watershed, range and wildlife, and her demonstrated management skills as a District Ranger, she will do great work for the San Bernardino National Forest (NF) and the communities there."

With a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Resources from Arizona State University, Jeanne started her Forest Service career in 1977 on the Coconino NF in Arizona as a range conservationist. She subsequently had responsibilities for watershed, range and wildlife in several ranger districts and forest staff positions in the Southwest. She was District Ranger on the Coronado NF in Arizona from 1990 to 1999.

Jeanne said, "My husband and I are very excited about getting back to the West and working with the Forest Service employees that have made the San Bernardino National Forest a flagship forest of the country. I'm also looking forward to getting to know the many people in the communities there who have created the cooperative spirit the area is known for." Jeanne and her husband Luke have three daughters in Arizona and Iowa. In her spare time, Jeanne enjoys gardening, scuba diving, and hiking.

**Fremont Investment & Loan Helps Forest Visitors Through the SGWA**

The San Gorgonio Wilderness Association receives \$\$ Cash \$\$ from Fremont Investment & Loan through its Deposit Incentive Donation Program.

If you currently have accounts at Fremont or open any new accounts, just mention you want SGWA #361 to receive credit,

and Fremont will do the rest. Fremont will make an annual donation and it costs you, an SGWA supporter, nothing. SGWA will receive a cash donation, \$ 831 this year, and you'll get great interest rates on FDIC insured accounts! No money is taken from Fremont customer accounts and complete privacy is maintained.

SGWA has been a member of this program since September 2001, and has received a total of \$ 2,054 to date. The value of those funds to the public is then multiplied five times by our volunteers who serve, protect, and educate.

Please help us earn more in 2006! For information on this wonderful program, contact Barbara Garcia at Fremont Investment & Loan at 909-793-8080 (located at the corner of State and 6th Streets in downtown Redlands) or any of their other branches including Torrance, Long Beach, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Woods, Woodland Hills, Northridge, Pasadena, Whittier, and Tustin. More information at [www.1800fremont.com/ida/branchlocation.asp](http://www.1800fremont.com/ida/branchlocation.asp).

OUR THANKS TO FREMONT FOR HELPING  
SGWA SERVE THE PUBLIC.

**Is Your Employer Extra Generous?**

Many employers will match or double your monetary contribution to the San Gorgonio Wilderness Association, even if you are now retired. And other employers will donate significant amounts for your volunteer hours with a non-profit organization such as SGWA.

With your matching gift, or only your donated volunteer hours, you can easily increase your support of our public service and increase the protection of the San Gorgonio Wilderness. Please check with your company to see if they have a matching gift or volunteer incentive program. If they do, simply send us the necessary company forms and we'll handle the rest.

You can help us partner with companies such as Bank of America, Edison International, Illinois Tool Works, U.S. Borax, and Verizon to make the world better for all. Thank you volunteers **Michael Gordon, Jeff Lynn, Ann Robinson, and Bob Seidenberg** for making this possible.

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