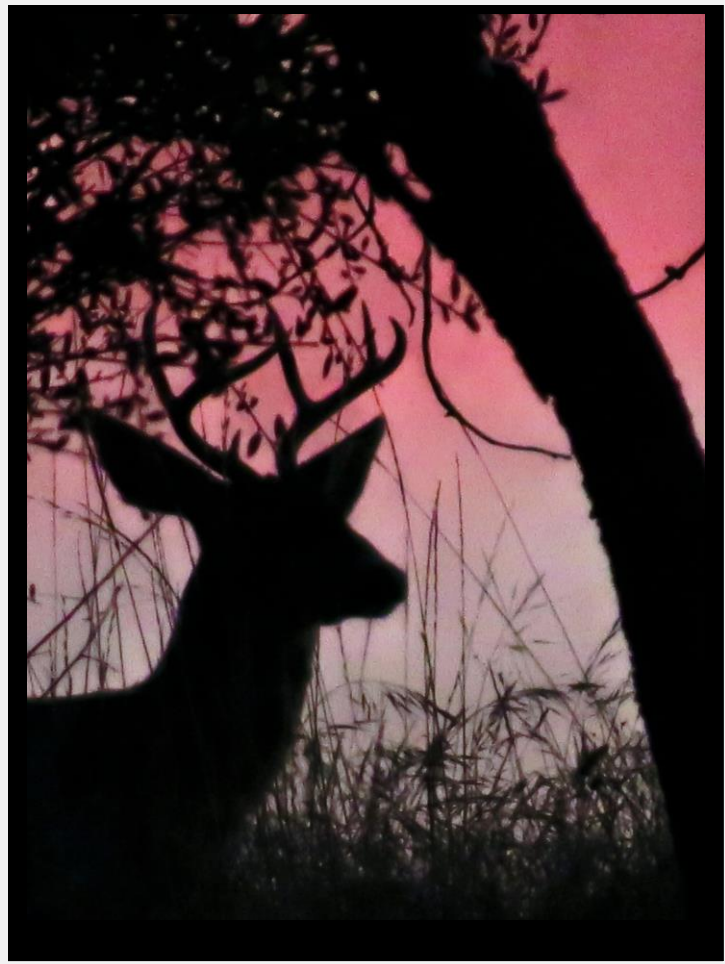


Trails and Tales

News for VIP Volunteers in the Montane Sector

November 2014



Meet Our New Ranger

Hello, my name is Daryl Woodward. I am a State Park Peace Officer. I have recently transferred to Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Prior to my transfer I was assigned to Angel Island State Park, where I have been for the last two years. My assignment prior to Angel Island was three parks in the Calistoga area. I am excited to be working at Cuyamaca Rancho State Park.



VIPEVENTS

Nov 8th ~ Volunteer Banquet

For the TMU schedule see the last page

Please check out the webpage for up-coming events information!

<http://www.crspia.org/events.php>

All photos by Michele Hernandez unless otherwise noted.

Read This Important Safety Message

Submitted by James P. Dascoulias
Park Maintenance Supervisor
Roads & Trails Crew



This safety message is from the State Parks Risk Management Unit.

Watch Your Step – Of the 358 workers' compensation claims that were filed last fiscal year, the cause of injury for 71 of them included a slip, trip, or fall.

Many of these injuries were triggered by:

- Stairs
- Slipping or tripping on uneven, wet, or loose surfaces
- Falling from a different level
- Falling from a horse or bike (mainly volunteers)

Most slip, trip, or fall related injuries are preventable. Paying attention to your surroundings and being aware of your slip, trip, and fall hazards, can help reduce your risk of injury.



TMU Wednesday Crew

Article & photos by Ken McIntyre

John Sproule, Mike Curtis & K. Mac set out from the Paso yard @ 8:30-ish in the Mighty-Long Diesel, fully armed w/ extension Pole Saw, circular Brush cutter & the trusty 18" chain saw (32" saw in the truck, just in case) John dropped Mike & Mac @ top o' sugar Pine, working down w/ pole saw & 18" saw & loppers - trimming & re-stashing brush & cutting back overhead branches & tree limbs - many now jutting into the widened trail corridor.

John drove the Diesel back to the SP connector & hiked back uphill to meet M & M @ place John & Mike had last halted brushing - 'bout 50 - 60 meters below the Lake Viewing Window spot. The devil Ceanothus was Crowding once more!

1st 3 pics tell the story - and, all brush went away, out o' sight, trampled & trampolined in a parking area created by Mike & his handy extended Pole-saw!

PS - bottom 3 pics clear up some long unfinished biz, nagging Howard K. Bo & Mac since **mid-March, 2014**, where a slew (plethora) of deadfall trees had to be chewed through so as we could even **reach** the SP connector on that day. . . All is complete lads, thanks J & M!

Having worked through the Lunch 1/2 hour, we scooted back to the Shop by 1:30PM. Packed gear away, refueled saws & bottles & John graciously tended to the care & cleaning of the Saws & Cutter.

We 3 vowed next time to finish the Trail remainder, to the SP Connector - so as to have time for a proper Lunchtime in the Day-use Park. We'll see what next Wed. shall bring.

Sweet Fall-ish October day,
Great day to be in the Park!
K. Mac

Remember the **Jutting Oak** -
from **12 Mar. 2014**?



We did have time to address the issue. . .



Yon remainder Oak juts no more.
Selah

Sugar Pine - just below Lake View opening spot



Mike's helmet just visible @ center pic



Trail strewn w/ slain Ceanothus

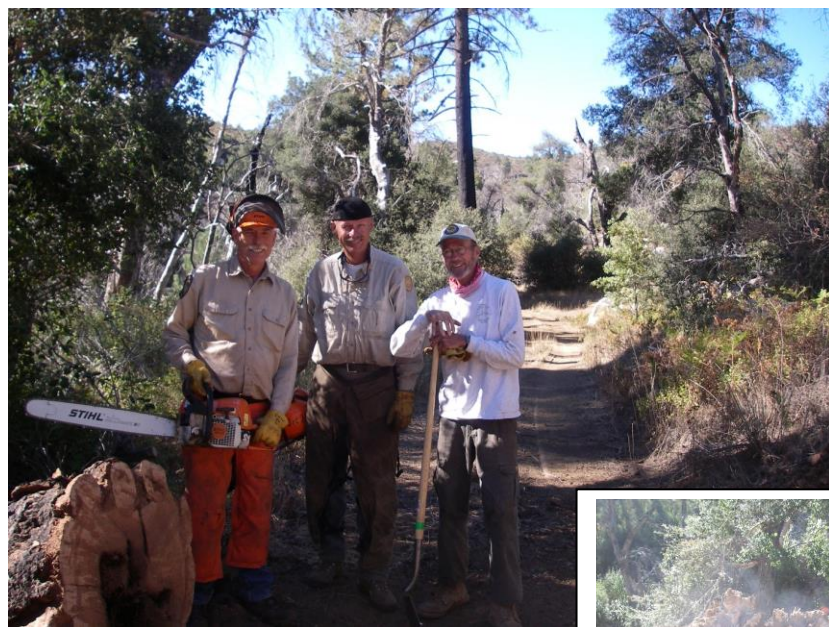


John & Mike emerge Victorious - again!



TMU Wednesday Crew Continues Article & Photos by Ken Bonus

On October 22, Ken McIntyre, John Sproule, Mike Curtis and Ken Bonus headed out to clear a reported downed tree on the Japacha fire road. As the photos indicate, it was a very large and very hollow oak, which made for an unusual and challenging project. John made the first slice, followed by Mike (while the two Kens cleared up the surrounding area, helped push the cut logs down the slope and provided humorous commentary). Having cleared the road, the intrepid crew headed over to Middle Peak fire road and continued work on a long, long, long project of clearing overgrowth and restoring the original trail corridor on the Sugar Pine trail. If you've not hiked this trail recently, you'll be amazed at how nice it is. Plus, it has great views out over Lake Cuyamaca.



More TMU News by Michele Hernandez

November is here and hopefully so is the rain. Milo and Janet hosted their monthly work party on a beautiful October day. Milo, SR and Ebake went up to Cherry Flats and repaired the erosion under the memorial bench that has a great view west. It's much easier to have a nice "sit down" now. Then, Milo and SR went down to the visitor center and took the interpretive trail north and cleaned up the brush left behind by a previous trail worker.

The hike and hack started work on Burnt Pine where it joins the Peak fire road. It was overgrown and much brushing was done. Further down Burnt Pine Ebake and Susan removed part of a downed tree that was broken and then removed brush to widen the space. Hopefully there is enough room for horses to get by the downed tree now. Another tree was removed from Burnt Pine farther down and there were no more downed trees on Burnt Pine. Unfortunately there are several trees on Fox trail that the hike and hack didn't have time to take care of during this work party.



Mike Curtis, John Sprole, Kenny Mac and Ken Bonus have been working on Sugar Pine. That pesky ceanothus has overgrown the trail again. Mike, John and Ken B. also removed a humongous oak tree from the Japacha fire road. Thanks guys. (See previous articles)

Until next month have fun in the park and have a nummy Thanksgiving.



MBAU Article by Chad Leptich

The MBAU Benefit Ride went off without any problems this year. Many thanks need to be given to the volunteers from the MBAU, IAU, TMU and MAU for helping out with this year's event. Of course the park staff helped out with a lot of the heavy lifting as well.

This year's event only had one lost rider, for a short while. No medical assistance besides a minor scrape was necessary. After 24 years of experience the MBAU has the ride down pretty well. Kudos to Susan Russo for helping us organize this event.

This year the MBAU decided to help the younger riders. There is a High School racing league called SOCAL Cycling League. MBAU gave free entry to the SOCAL team members if their parents helped with the card stops. We had teams from Julian and Ramona show up to help. Some of the MBAU volunteers are mentoring these younger riders to educate them on proper training techniques and trail etiquette.

The MBAU also had some of the TMU tools on display. This was done to show the participants where the money was going from the event. The Park was kind enough to bring the SWECO over as well. The hope is to see the SWECO on the trails this winter as weather permits. SWEET!!!



Photo by Mara Clear Spring Cook

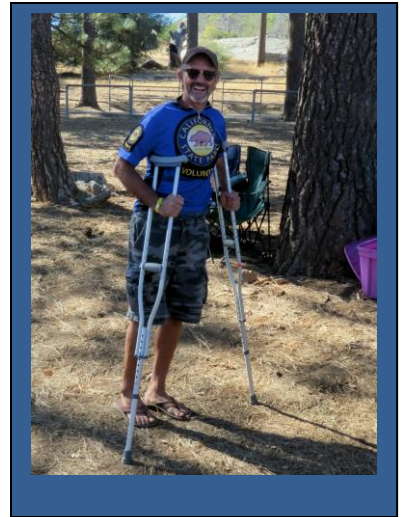


Photo by Chad Leptich's camera?



Photo by Mara Clear Spring Cook

MOUNTED ASSISTANCE UNIT

By Bonnie Slager

Have you ever had to hitch hike home from the Park with a horse?

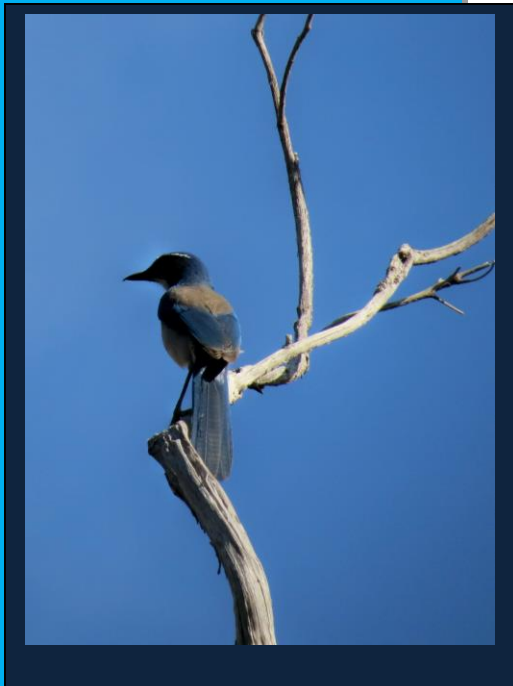
We had a great weekend of riding and beautiful fall weather. Lots of people in the Park on Saturday and almost no one on Sunday. That seems to be the pattern this time of year. After 3 days of riding I went to start my truck and the battery was OK but it would not start. Panic. How do I get from Cuyamaca to Norco on Sunday evening without a truck? Clyde voted against walking so I had to think of some other way to get home. Fortunately the Halliburtons were camped with me and they live in Bonsall which is about half way to Norco and they have a three horse trailer and only two horses so they were kind enough to take me to their home and Stew came with truck and trailer to take me and Clyde home. Ok, so that got us home but my truck and trailer were still at Mickey James Camp. Now the next problem was getting my truck and trailer home. On Monday I got a friend with a gooseneck hitch to drive me down to the Park. Again, the truck still would not start so it was time to call a tow truck. Triple A sent out a knowledgeable man from RBS Towing that knew the Park well enough

to find me. Telling them the mile marker on Highway 79 is helpful. He hooked up my truck to his tow truck as we unhooked my trailer so he could take it to a repair place. Now my trailer could go home with my friend's truck. So Monday I got my trailer home and my truck was towed to Alpine Auto Repair to be fixed, Yeah!! They are really nice and kept in contact with me during the process. If you ever have a problem in the Alpine area, I recommend them. It took until Thursday to get my truck home as I had to get a ride from Norco to Alpine to retrieve my truck but it now runs great and I know what a fuel rail pressure center is, well, sort of. I do know that if it is broken my truck will not start.

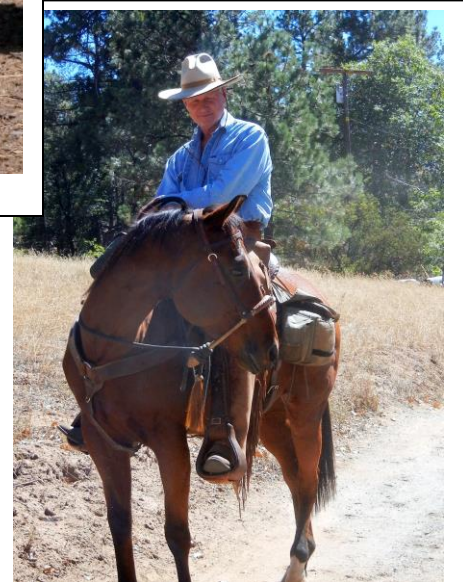
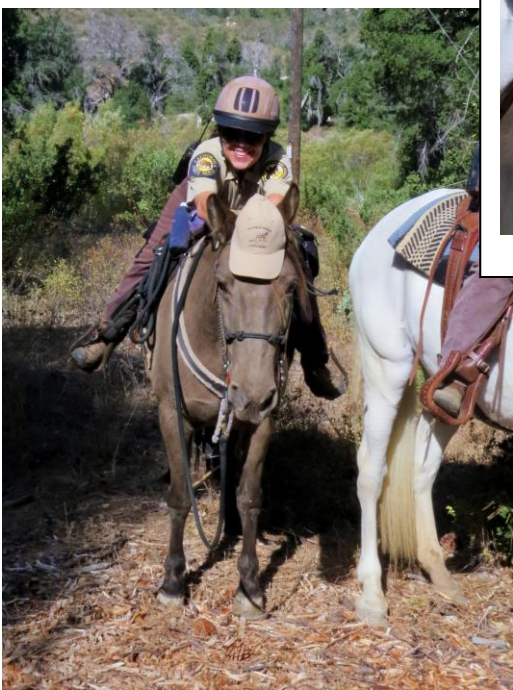
It is great to have friends that will come and get you with one phone call and take a vacation day from work to help you. Again thanks to Ron and Joy Halliburton for allowing me to hitch a ride with them.

I hope to see all of you at the Year End Banquet on Saturday November 8. Remember this is when you will get your VIP card for 2015.

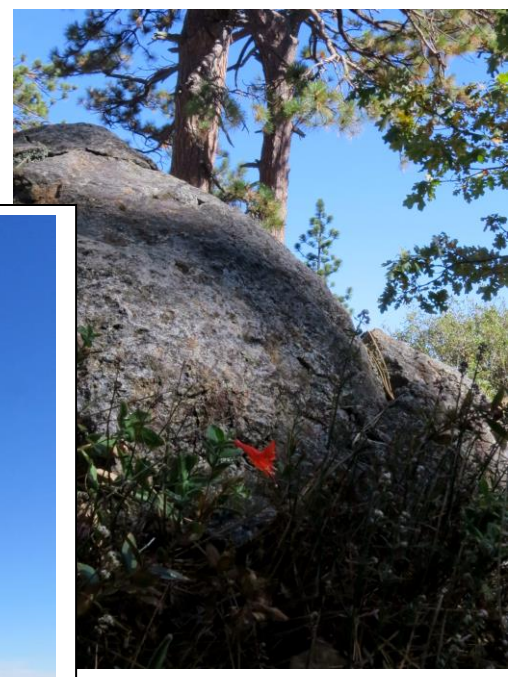
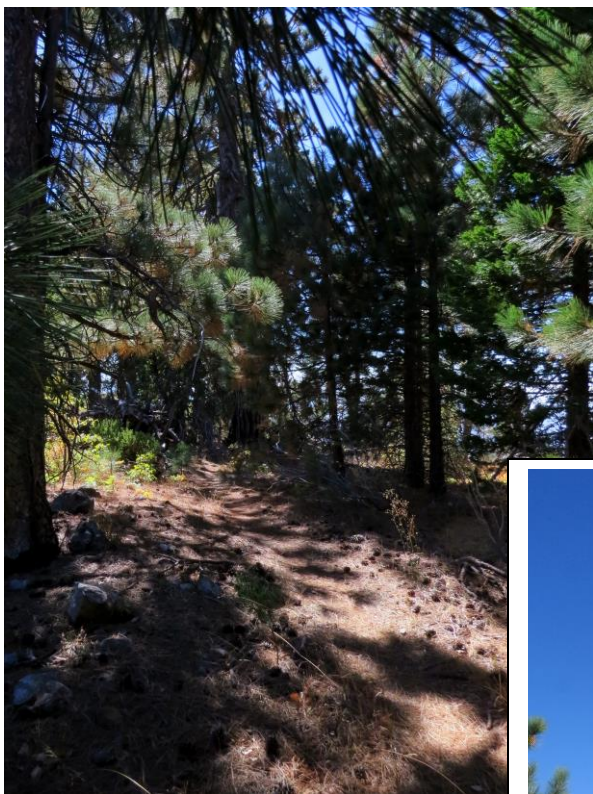
Next month a new adventure with Bonnie and Clyde, enjoy the Park.



True Love



The Beauty that Surrounds Us



APPLE FESTIVAL SHOWCASES

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN STATE PARK'S PIONEER HERITAGE

Over seven hundred Southern Californians flocked to mile-high Palomar Mountain State Park in late October to celebrate the park's 4th Annual Apple Festival, which showcased the park's pioneer heritage and its 130 year old apple orchard that produces delicious apples to this day.

The record turnout crowd enjoyed a day of delicious food, music, entertainment and education, which included hands-on apple sorting and cider making and demonstrations of traditional weaving and spinning. Visitors of all ages learned how to square dance with an authentic caller, and kids were able to make and take home a variety of apple crafts that pioneer children would have been familiar with. Volunteers dressed in period garb added to the festival's "old-timey" interpretive ambience.

Throughout the day, visitors had the opportunity to learn even more about the park's natural and cultural resources by exploring the park's trails, pond, spectacular vistas and its historic Boucher fire tower, which is staffed by volunteers and still in operation, remaining a vital part of fire detection in San Diego and Riverside Counties.

Many visitors had never been to the park, and the festival provided the perfect attraction to introduce them to this special jewel within the California state park family.

*Editorial comment: **Select hi res photos** may be viewed here and downloaded:
<http://www.friendsofpalomarsp.org/af2014> All photos credit Rick Barclay*



Trails Maintenance Unit

Schedule for November 2014

Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

We meet at the Paso Picacho Maintenance Yard at 8:00am

Our volunteer Hosts for each Saturday are as follows:

Saturday, November 1st: Enjoy the park or join Susan after the CRSPIA meeting to saw a log on the trail

Saturday, November 8th: Milo and Janet are taking a break. Don't forget the Volunteer Banquet!

Saturday, November 15: Hike and Hack: Hosting the Audubon Society

Saturday, November 22: Enjoy the Park

Pre-registration is not necessary. Just show up at 8am.

Contacts:

Palomar TMU-Jim Zevely- jdzevely@gmail.com

MAU- Bonnie Slager- slagerb@sbcglobal.net

MBAU- Chad Leptich- leptich@juesd.net

IAU-Shannon Svensen- shannonsvensen@mac.com

Visitor Center Gift Shop Manager- Barbara McCoy-

bmccoy2008@yahoo.com

Visitor Center Museum Scheduling- Greg Meckstroth

greglm@sbcglobal.net

CRSP Park Headquarters (weekdays only) -- 760-765-3020

Paso Picacho Kiosk (for weekends) -- 760-765-3023

Green Valley Kiosk -- 760-765-3024

Palomar Headquarters -- 760-742-3462

Send articles and photos (Please, include photographer's name)

for next month BEFORE noon of the last day of the month to-

Susan Russo - nebulae3sma@hotmail.com