

JUNE 2015

Say Hello to P41!



A remote camera captured the mountain lion known as P-41. (Johanna Turner)

Did you see the Los Angeles Times' article about "P-41" - the Puma being tracked through the Verdugo Mountains? Well, it highlights why we are so passionate about preserving Cottonwood Canyon! Here's what we want to happen: P41 moves east into the San Rafael Hills and meets our own Cottonwood "P" who passed through Devil's Gate Dam and Cottonwood Canyon en route to the San Rafael. We want to make it easier for these two to get together...and if they're a match, maybe have a few little "p"s of their own! Preserving Cottonwood Canyon is the key to making this happen!

We know that P-41 traversed the distance from the Santa Monica Mountains to spend three months of the winter here in the Verdugo Mountains. This is really a good thing because he will help keep the deer and coyote populations in check by controlling deer population density. You will rarely see these big cats because while P-41 might put his best foot forward in front of the remote cameras, he's actually very shy and seems to go to great lengths to avoid human contact.

To read more about P-41 and his friends who are depending on AFC to help them, read the article here: [P-41 Story](#).



99th Street Elementary volunteers

Volunteer groups included PharmaVite, Corgan Architect & Design Firm, 99th Street Elementary School, CSU Los Angeles' *Volunteer Management Class* and CSU San Bernadino students. Everyone had a great time and much was accomplished! Thanks to the Friends of Rosemont for staffing the event, PharmaVite for their sponsorship and LA Works for all their hard work and great organization!

120 volunteers celebrated Earth Day in style with a community service day at the Rosemont Preserve in April. Funded by corporate sponsor PharmaVite, volunteers built a new side trail, assembled a storage shed, spread mulch to help maintain the trail, weeded the outdoor classroom and tended to our one-year old trees on the south slope. All this work helps to restore the habitat at Rosemont and maintain our outdoor classroom and trail for our outdoor education programs.



LA works volunteers plant trees at Rosemont

In the last 12 months, volunteers like these contributed over 1,000 hours of labor to help restore habitat on AFC properties. If we had to pay for all this work to be done it would cost over \$20,000. Thanks to these volunteers we can channel most of our donations toward property acquisition and community outdoor education programs.

Westridge Students at Millard & Rubio Canyons

On May 22nd, 7th graders from Westridge School visited 2 AFC properties to study soil and volunteer to help restore the native habitat. At Millard Canyon the students helped move a huge pile of mulch to help protect newly planted trees and reduce the fire hazard to our neighbors.



7th Grade Westridge students move mulch at Millard

At Rubio Canyon, the girls moved mulch to the newly planted trees and watered them as well. They also helped remove invasive mustard plants and learned how their removal benefits the soil and helps native plants thrive.

Thanks to our group leaders: at Rubio Canyon, AFC Board Member Tim Martinez and at Millard Canyon, Bill Ramseyer of the Meadows Fire Safe Council.

Would your child, grandchild or student like to explore the creek at Millard or help water newly planted trees while enjoying a view of the ocean on a clear day from Rubio Canyon? If so, have their teacher contact us and we will make it happen!

Did you know...

Many employers will match your donations to a qualified non-profit organization! We are currently receiving matching gifts from Walt Disney Co., Google, and Bank of America. Some programs offer a 50% match while others will give dollar for dollar! If you donate to AFC, and you want to maximize your gift, check out this website for [matching gift programs](#) to see if they offer this program; or ask your employer if they have a "matching gifts program". This is an easy way to increase your support to AFC. Thank you!

Volunteer Spotlight

Roger Klemm, the "Guerilla Gardener" and AFC Advisor!

Roger is a native plant expert and advocate - with the goal of planting natives "one garden at a time." He helps eradicate invasive exotic plants in the Angeles National Forest and at the Rosemont Preserve, replacing them with native plants better suited for survival in this climate. He spearheaded the renovation of a community entrance garden at Sunland Boulevard and the 210 freeway in Sunland. Roger also helped the Friends of the Rosemont Preserve harvest seeds to propagate as part of the Los Angeles County Reforestation Initiative.



Roger leads tours at the Rosemont Preserve focusing on native plants and how everyone can plant them in their own gardens. He helped facilitate a partnership between Friends of Rosemont Preserve and the La Crescenta Public Library - he even created a video guide to planting native plants at home. Now the La Crescenta Public Library is home to what appears to be the 1st ever California Native Seed Lending Library!

Here's an example of how helpful Roger is: AFC got a request from Altadena Elementary School 4th grade teacher, Beth Mortilla. She wanted to show her students how to identify and plant California native plants. Roger visited the classroom and gave them some instruction; not only about how to identify them, he also demonstrated how to plant them!

Now you'll understand why Roger is our Advisor...passion for restoration = action = Roger is making a difference!

Thanks so much Roger for all your help!!

Volunteer Opportunities with AFC!

[Rosemont Preserve](#)

Habitat Restoration Days

2nd Saturday of every month, 9:00-11:00am

Join us in removing invasive plants and replacing them with natives.

Open Gate Days

3rd Sunday of every month, 3:00-5:00pm

Come visit the Preserve at your leisure, take a stroll...
Count the deer and enjoy this beautiful open space in your backyard.

Upcoming Docent-led Tours

June 27, 9-11am: Roger Klemm's tour: California Native Plants and How to Grow Them in Your Own Garden!

July 25, 9-11am: Nancy Steele's tour: Open Space Conservation and the History of AFC

Aug 22, 9-11am: Nicholas Hummingbird's talk on Native Plants on Rosemont Preserve

Sept 26, 9-11 am: Docent tour of the Preserve, tour guide TBA

Oct 24, 9-11 am: History with Michele Zack



No RSVP necessary for Rosemont Preserve events. Rain cancels.


If you would like to volunteer with AFC [click here](#).

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