

***Bear #2 Uses Cottonwood Canyon to get from  
Pasadena to Glendale***



Fabulous news! On June 8<sup>th</sup>, a bear was seen lounging in the pool of a La Canada home. Local news outlets jumped on the story, helicopters went up and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) was contacted and tried to chase the bear back into the hills (Andrew Hughan, CDFW: <http://ktla.com/2016/06/08/officials-look-for-bear-in-la-canada/>). On June 10<sup>th</sup>, the bear was located in the 2900 block of Saint Gregory Road in Glendale (Steve Gonzales, CDFW: <http://abc7.com/pets/bear-found-in-la-canada-flintridge-spotted-again-in-glendale/1381030/>).

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, and again June 17<sup>th</sup>, the bear was spotted in the Whiting Woods section of Glendale (email from Lt. Martin Wall, CDFW). How did it navigate the heavily developed area to get there? A routine check of our trail cameras on the Cottonwood Canyon property shows the rascal burrowing in the stream before heading up the hill, past the mouth of the spring, on his way over to the San Rafael Hills and, ultimately, where he was spotted in Glendale. The bear's adventures document and validate the fact that large

mammals are using the Cottonwood Property to travel between large blocks of natural landscape in the region.

## Connecting Youth to the Land

### Summer Internship Program

We are excited to have accepted 5 high school and college age students into our first annual Summer Internship Program. Interns will gain hands-on experience with habitat restoration out on the land, as well helping with research projects, community outreach, and other programs throughout the summer.

### Summer Trail Crew

A crew of five local young people from Pasadena will be placed on AFC lands to work on habitat restoration, fire hazard reduction, and other improvements throughout the summer. This crew will work in conjunction with our summer interns, and will gain firsthand knowledge of ecological restoration, environmental issues, and careers in conservation.



## AFC's Appreciation Event Says Thank You!



Katie Poole, Vice Chair  
Jennifer DeVoll  
Foothills Society Members

On Sunday, May 15, AFC hosted our second annual Appreciation Party. This year we said THANK YOU to members of the Foothills Society, our Friends groups, Directors and Advisors.

AFC is an integral group of caretakers who each play an important role in the organization. Foothills Society members make a three year monetary pledge; Friends groups adopt and care for each of our properties; the Board sets policy, provides fiscal oversight and works to be certain AFC has the resources it needs to progress; and Advisors offer their unique expertise in areas like biology, habitat restoration, map-making, communications, wildlife tracking, and engagement with scouts.

We especially wish to thank Board members Matt DeVoll, Jim Osterling and Katie Poole, respectively, for underwriting the event, hosting the location, and managing the logistics. It was great to stop and take stock

## Did you know...

### **AFC is in the middle of our Foothills Society Membership drive?**

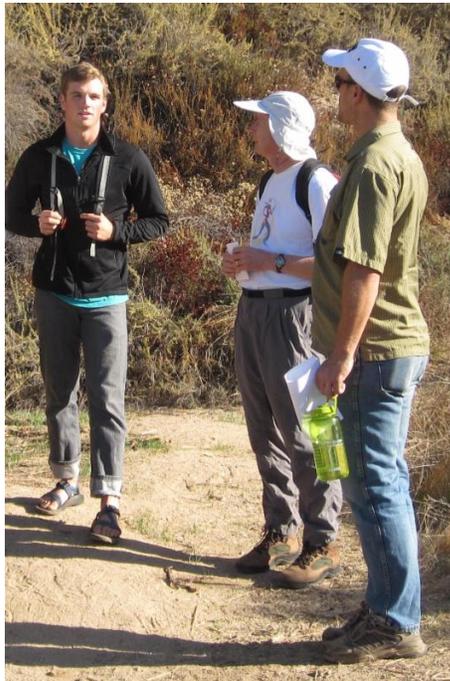
Foothills Society member donations support AFC's core mission to secure, protect and steward our precious open spaces with a focus on preservation and stewardship of the land. These donors make a pledge to donate their selected amount every year for three consecutive years. This is in addition to any other donation for land acquisition or other event. We invite you to join the Foothills Society this year with a pledge amount of your choosing.

If you have any questions, contact [Jennifer Taylor](#).

You can review and select your giving level to make your pledge NOW at [Foothills Society Membership](#) . Thank you!

***"The Foothills Society is important because one person alone cannot help AFC build up a piggy bank. But when there's a number of us willing to pledge support to AFC in its work of acquiring a property for preservation, then there are funds available for acquisition and for the ongoing necessary stewardship afterward."***

*~ ~ Ninarose Mayer, Friends of Millard Canyon and Foothills Society Member*



John Wros leads a hiking tour on AFC properties.

## Volunteer Spotlight

### **John Wros, Board Advisor Geospatial Ecology & Cartography**

Don't let the soft-spoken demeanor of John Wros fool you. He's just off a 200 mile cross-country ski with friends in the Alaskan Arctic. But here's something even more impressive - as a volunteer researcher for AFC, John created our new ***Database-Driven Land Prioritization Matrix***. This exhaustive survey of significant parcels of land ranks properties for their conservation value. It will allow AFC to be as effective as possible in its land acquisition strategy.

"This is an invaluable tool to guide AFC to obtain the highest value possible for every

donor dollar that we apply to land acquisition. This puts AFC on the leading edge of the conversation and on par with largest land trusts in the country," says AFC Chief Executive, John Howell. AFC has shared this new matrix with the National Park Service, who said the sophistication of John's work is remarkable. They may even adopt it for their own use.

John's new job is with The Conservation Fund in Alaska. He'll be saving natural lands on a large scale basis using a matrix he created for that purpose. We're thrilled that the beautiful state of Alaska will enjoy the benefits of his knowledge and energy; and we're especially happy to have him staying on as a trusted Advisor to AFC. Thank you, John!

# Grant News!

AFC grant writers continually search for funding for AFC operations, programs and properties. Most recently, AFC received \$20,000 from Adams Legacy Foundation in support of our Cottonwood Canyon Acquisition Project.

## Events & 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 25th, 9-11 am: Nancy Steele, Water and Conservation at the Rosemont Preserve  
July 3rd, 9-11am: Johanna Turner, Animal tracking at the Rosemont Preserve (**RSVP required to Rosemontfriends@gmail.com**)  
July 23rd, 9-11am: Roger Klemm, Native plants on the Preserve and in your garden  
August 7th, 9-11am: Johanna Turner, Living with wildlife in the foothills of Southern California  
August 27th, 9-11am: Hans Hoek, Geology of the Rosemont Preserve  
September 4th, 9-11am: Johanna Turner, Animal tracking at the Rosemont Preserve (**RSVP required to Rosemontfriends@gmail.com**)  
September 24th, 9-11am: Dana Stengel  
October 22nd, 9-11am: Rich Toyon, Native American History & use of native plants at the Rosemont Preserve

No RSVP necessary for Rosemont Preserve events unless noted. Rain cancels.

### Rubio Canyon

#### **Rubio Canyon Volunteer Day**

July 9th, 10am-12pm: Join us at Rubio Preserve as we pull weeds and improve the historic trail. Learn to identify the plants of the San Gabriel Mountains and their uses. Bring water and dress appropriately. Meet at the intersection of Rubio Vista Road and Pleasant Ridge Drive in Altadena, CA. The trail begins between the two houses (1351 and 1342) on the corner.

#### **Rubio Canyon Guided Hike**

August 6th, 9am-11am: Meet at the intersection of Rubio Vista Road and Pleasant Ridge Drive, Altadena, CA.

### Old Marengo Park

#### **Old Marengo Park Gardening Day**

July 16th, 9am-12pm: Join us as we beautify Old Marengo Park! Help neighbors and friends plant native plants, pull weeds, and bring nature back into the city. Old Marengo Park is located at the intersection of Marengo Ave and Woodbury Rd in Altadena, CA.

#### **Old Marengo Park Neighborhood Party**

August 20th: Old Marengo Park is located at the intersection of Marengo Ave and Woodbury Rd in Altadena, CA.

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



### **Legacies & Bequests**

You can create a legacy that commemorates your commitment to AFC's mission. By making a gift through your estate or naming AFC as a beneficiary of your retirement or insurance plan, you will ensure that our work of protecting the land and the wildlife on it will continue. If you would like to learn more, please contact us at 626.796.0782.

### **Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy**

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