



Spring 2019 Newsletter

Rubio Canyon Scout Projects

Two Boy Scout Projects were completed this past year in Rubio Canyon: a trail kiosk, designed and constructed by Eagle Scout Curtis Yun; and footbridge designed and constructed by Eagle Scout Michael Yen. Both are great additions to the preserve.



Part of AFC's mission to steward land is to create valuable resources for the community. This includes restoring habitat and trails, creating outdoor education programs, and working with area Scouts to complete service projects on our properties.

Curtis Yun, currently a senior at St. Francis High School, worked with AFC to develop the trailhead kiosk for the Rubio Canyon Preserve shown above. He organized and oversaw volunteer construction of the kiosk, with a design inspired by the outstretched wings of a hawk. The completed kiosk is a beautiful addition to Rubio Preserve, and already attracted new volunteers eager to help improve the Canyon.



Michael Yen was a senior at Polytechnic School when he planned, designed and organized volunteers to replace an aging footbridge along the Mount Lowe rail trail in Rubio Canyon. Shown here, Michael's new bridge is a handsome addition to the Rubio Preserve. AFC will use Michael's design as a model for future trail work.

Curtis and Michael's commitment to their projects is exemplary of the highest quality product expected of an Eagle Scout service project. AFC deeply appreciates the time and effort they dedicated to making Rubio Canyon an even more valuable community resource.

Urban Wildlife Information Network



AFC interns and volunteers are busy gathering data from over 20 cameras set within the 20 mile Hahamongna to Tujunga Wildlife Corridor.

Data from these cameras will be shared with the Urban Wildlife Information Network (UWIN) as part of a nationwide study designed to understand the ecology and behavior of urban wildlife species. UWIN started in 2010 as a study of Chicago's urban ecosystem, but has expanded across the country to include

cities from coast to coast. To learn more take a look at their website [here](#).

Volunteer Spotlight: Friends of Rubio Canyon



Once AFC preserves a property, we provide an opportunity for people with a passion for the land to help steward it by joining our volunteer stewardship groups. Our newest group, Friends of Rubio Canyon, includes: Mel Lynch, Manuela Gomez Rhine, Michael Rhine, Ken Farley, Bob Berger, Christy Lambert and Hans Hoek.

We met Mel out on the dusty slopes of Rubio because, as a local neighbor, he had taken it upon himself to roll his wheelbarrow and tools down the street to repair the trails. Mel is now our de facto "Trail Boss" and regularly helps oversee volunteers.

Manuela is a professional writer who hikes Rubio Canyon with her husband, Michael, a couple of times a week. Manuela helps edit AFC's written materials, and is now handling communications for the Friends of Rubio group. Michael is a wealth of local knowledge and has been hiking in Rubio since the 1960s!

Ken is a Caltech geochemist and an ultra trail-runner who trains on Rubio's trails. He's a great resource when it comes to understanding geology there. Bob has a background in railroads and helped restore some of the historic trails in Rubio Canyon. Christy and Hans are both also members of the Friends of the Rosemont Preserve, and local trail runners. Hans is another geologist whose expertise we

greatly value.

The Friends of Rubio are already tackling issues of trail alignments and maintenance, volunteer and educational programs, Scout projects, and other very exciting plans for the future. AFC is very grateful for their many contributions. We couldn't accomplish all of this without them. And we are just getting started! Do you also love Rubio Canyon and wish to become involved? Send an email to Tim Martinez to learn more: timmartinez@arroyosfoothills.org.

Did You Know?

Many employers will match their employees' donations to charitable organizations. AFC is currently receiving matching corporate contributions from Andeavor, Bank of America, Disney and Wells Fargo. It's up to the employee to request the match. Find out if your company offers this employee benefit and it will increase your donation to AFC!

Plan Your Calendar!



Animals of the Arroyo Seco

Trail exhibition dates: March 30, April 6 and 7, 12-3 pm; location: along the Arroyo Seco trail ([map](#)).

Join us for this special exhibit featuring fun and unique wildlife sculptures placed along the **Arroyo Seco** trail to Cottonwood Canyon! Learn how this section of the Hahamongna to Tujunga Wildlife Corridor inspired artist, Margaret Adachi, to create these beautiful works of

art.

*****Rain Cancels all events****

Rosemont Preserve

~ please park at Two Strike Park for Rosemont events ([map](#))

March

Habitat Restoration: Sat, March 9, 9-11am

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sat, March 16, 2-4pm

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sun, March 17, 9-11am

Wildlife Tracking/Photography Tour:

Sat, March 23, 9-11am, Led by Rachel-Ann Arias

April

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sun, April 7, 9-11am

Habitat Restoration: Sat, April 13, 9-11am

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sat., April 20, 2-4pm

Medicinal Uses of Native Plants: Sat, April 27, 9-11am,

Led by Dr. Jim Adams

Earth Day at Rosemont Preserve: Sat, April 27, time TBD

-this is a fun family event in partnership with the Crescenta Valley Town Council

May

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sun, May 5, 9-11am

Habitat Restoration: Sat, May 11, 9-11am

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sat, May 18, 2-4pm

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sun, May 19, 9-11am

Amazing Native Wildlife: Sat, May 25, 9-11am,

Led by Dana Stangel, ED of Teranga Ranch

June

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sun, June 2, 9-11am

Habitat Restoration: Sat, June 8, 9-11am

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sat, June 15, 2-4pm

Open Gate self-guided tour on the Preserve: Sun, June 16, 9-11am

Rubio Canyon

Volunteer Day: Sat, March 2, 9-11am,
Meet at 1101 E. Loma Alta Dr. ([map](#))

Volunteer Day: Sat. April 6, 9-11am,
Meet at 1101 E. Loma Alta Dr. ([map](#))

Volunteer Day: Sat, May 4, 9-11am,
Meet at 1101 E. Loma Alta Dr. ([map](#))

Volunteer Day: Sat, June 1, 9-11am,
Meet at 1101 E. Loma Alta Dr. ([map](#))



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.



Securing, Protecting and Stewarding Our Precious Open Spaces

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Connect with us

