



A MESSAGE FOM THE MOREYS

The lookouts have only been open two months and we have been alerted at least three times about volunteers showing bad attitudes toward other volunteers. We will not accept this. We have spoken to the volunteers that have been abused by the unpleasantness and the volunteers that have caused the unpleasantness. We have listened to all sides and have had an open mind about it. We also realize everyone has bad days, but it is wrong to take it out on another volunteer and we fear we will lose GOOD volunteers as a result. Therefore, anyone who cannot treat their fellow volunteers with respect will be told to leave the program. We are proud of our family and have never experienced this behavior before. We feel we must put a stop to it now!!! Everyone should realize we all come from different walks of life but have the common goals of staffing the lookouts and enjoying our forest. When the pleasure is gone so is the volunteer. We realize our scheduling is not perfect and errors are made. It will ever be perfect and we need everyone's understanding on this. Please keep in mind that the schedule is not full until we have three volunteers on a shift. We encourage everyone that encounters a problem with the program or a volunteer to contact us immediately. We are here for everyone. We feel you are our family and if anyone of you is hurt it also hurts the program and us.



A WARNING FROM PAM

It's official! We are going Nowhere! (Actually **THE BRIDGE TO NOWHERE**). Ric knows the way and will be leading us. Start getting in shape now for a 10 mile round trip jaunt in October or November. I understand it is not a hard hike, although we will be crossing the East Fork several times. If Ric goes too fast you can stay behind with me.

Keep up to date: www.anffla.org



Hard Working Hawkins Hosts

South Mt Hawkins

We have a gate problem at Hawkins again this season. You will have to enter the exit. The entry gate is broken and our lock is not on it, so it is ok to enter the exit gate. Also please remember that if you are coming up to spend the night you must be at the lookout before 5pm or delay your drive up the fire road until after 6:30pm so that you are not meeting the volunteer who is coming off the shift. There are not a lot of places to pass each other.
Hawkins Stats through July 21, 2002:
Tower staffed 42 days (vs 30 last year).
Total visitors: 148 (86 last year).
Donations (thru June 30): \$88.00

VETTER Have all the volunteers gone on vacation? Many have done in-tower training, but few have signed up to return. If it weren't for the same volunteers each week we would not be staffed. Remember if you don't put in 24 hours this season you won't get a year end t-shirt.
Vetter Stats through June 30, 2002:
Tower staffed 23 days out of the previous 30.
Total visitors: 590.
Donations: \$209.63



Another Vetter Visitor

WATER IS LIFE



(photo by Tom Hunter)

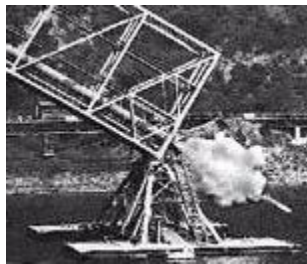
Bob Gregg goes **BALLISTIC** Cruising north from Azusa on Hwy 39, the first dam you pass is Morris Dam which was started in April, 1932 and completed in January, 1934. Originally called Pine Canyon Dam, it was built as a water source for Pasadena and water was then sent through a 17 mile tunnel. To keep down-river cities happy, Pasadena gave the reservoir to the Metropolitan Water District in June, 1941 when water arrived from the Colorado River. Used for storage until 1977, it was then turned over to the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. Samuel Morris was the superintendent of the Pasadena Municipal Water Department and was instrumental in finding the dam's location.

Just past the dam, one can see a large concrete apron descending from the ridge to the water's edge and just to its right a ridge that once had 12 buildings on it housing the US Navy Ordnance Testing Station.

It was built in 1943 by CalTech for the Navy and taken over by the Navy in 1945 after an expenditure of \$10 million. The Navy paid the MWD \$50,000 a year in rent. Its purpose was to develop antisubmarine torpedoes. Sixty people worked there. They developed the Polaris missile, Subroc, Asroc, Mark 46 homing torpedo and depth charges.

Different equipment included:

(1) VAL or Variable Angle Launcher; a bridge type structure 300 feet long, 22 feet high and 35 feet wide which rested on the concrete apron we see today. It had two tubes 22 1/2" and 32 1/2" in diameter through which missiles were fired at speeds up to 680 mph. The bridge could be set from 5 to 38 degree angles. It weighed 500 tons and took two years and \$3 million to build. An overhead camera on a cable and a side angle camera on a 500 foot track recorded the surface action. Underwater an array of hydrophones were used.



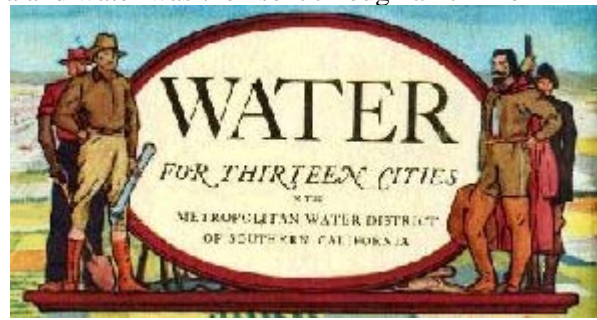
(2) Slingshot. A projectile was hoisted to a cable 200 feet above the lake. Shock cords were attached and stretched so a projectile could hit the water at angles up to 90 degrees.

(3) Underwater rail launcher. Projectiles 1 to 2 feet in diameter were shot along a 40 foot track into impact plates which could be angled from 5 to 90 degrees.

(4) Helicopter drop range

(5) Propulsion test cells. Thousands of torpedoes were launched with only one going wild and skipped over the top of the dam at over 600 mph.

Stay current: www.anffla.org



AUGUST FIRES in the Angeles. *(partial chronology)*

August 11, 1954. Several hundred acres northeast of Vetter from the canyon bottom up to the Angeles Crest along about a 1 mile stretch from Charlton Flats northwest along the 'Crest.

August 23 to 28, 1968. Canyon Inn Fire. 19,100 acres burned from Morris Dam up to Rincon and west to Monrovia Peak. The Pine Mtn. Lookout burned down on the 26th.

August 25, 1996. The Reservoir Fire. It burned 1,428 acres in three days in the area from San Gabriel Dam to near Rincon and west to Pine Mtn.

August 29, 1999. The Bridge Fire. Began at the bridge to the East Fork from Highway 39 and, by the time it was controlled in early September, burned 7,234 acres in an area visible today from San Gabriel Dam up the North Fork and west to Pine Mtn. Pam, George and Kermit were working on restoring South Hawkins when it broke out and had to evacuate over the closed portion of Highway 39 above Crystal Lake to the Angeles Crest Highway.

NATIONAL FIRE WATCH *(excerpts from NIFC)*

350 new fires were reported on 7/22. 4, in California, Idaho and Utah, became large. Critical conditions are expected to continue for several weeks.



So far this year, more than 50,000 wildland fires have consumed 3,710,809 acres; compared to a 10 year average of 1,771,246. These figures include 4,417 fires and 142,788 acres in California.

Fires reported in California include:

McNalley: 15,000 acres, 0% containment. 12 miles north of Kernville in Sequoia National Forest. Threatens Giant Sequoia Nat'l Monument & 200 residences.
Deer: 1.800 acres, 25% containment. Within Lake Isabella City limits. 25 residences confirmed lost.

!!GOLD FEVER!!

by Bob Gregg -

Part 3 of 3. June & July installments covered mining activity in other areas of the San Gabriels. This month we visit the **Big Horn Mine**.

.....
From South Hawkins, if we swing our sight north to about a 51 degree heading and our view wasn't obstructed by a ridge including Ross Mtn, we might see the buildings of the Big Horn Mine, located at 6,940 feet on the southeast ridge of Mt. Baden-Powell. It was the highest mine in the San Gabriels. Charles Vincent, who lived in Vincent Gap, which the Angeles Crest Highway descends to from the Blue Ridge today, discovered the mine while hunting bighorn sheep in 1895 and named it for them.



Big Horn Mine Stampmill

He did not have the money to develop it and promoters took over. The assay was low though. From 1902-1910, a company invested a fortune in boring tunnels and erected a 10 stamp mill along with a wagon road to Vincent Gap and on down Big Rock Creek to the desert. The road was built in 1903. About 50 men worked it from 1903-06 and 15,564 tons of ore were treated. The \$39,720 in gold recovered did not cover the development costs. **It was worked again in 1914** and again in the 1930s when a 50 ton floatation mill was built. Six tunnels ranging from elevations of 6,300 feet to 7,600 feet totalled over 4,000 feet in length. The longest was 1,200 feet at the 6,615 foot level. Again, there were poor returns on the investment and it was closed for good in 1941

Many structures are still standing today and one can see them after a fairly easy two mile hike from Vincent Gap at the Angeles Crest Highway. When hiking in, after about a quarter mile on the old road, now mostly a trail, one comes to a high cut on the right side and a heavily used trail descending to the left. In a couple blocks walk you will see Vincent's cabin being restored by our own **Bill Cone**. Bill helped rebuild South Hawkins Lookout. When you arrive at the mine please use extreme **CAUTION** looking out for shafts that you could fall into.



*Vincent's Cabin.
Photo by **Tony Overduin**.
Shown by permission
& posted at
www.summitpost.com*

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, August 15. 6:30pm
Supersession. Arcadia DSO.
How to use the !@#\$^! radio.

- **Thursday, September 18. 6:30pm**
- **Supersession. Arcadia DSO.**
- **Fires near the lookouts:**
- **historical overview by Gerry Reponen.**

CONTACT SHEET

Coordinators: George and Pam Morey. (909) 338-3923 or 1-800-222-1900 x 236 or pgmorey@aol.com.
So. Hawkins Scheduler: Bob Gregg. boblg1@earthlink.net or www.anffla.org or 818-249-5052.
Vetter Scheduler: Chuck McFate. www.anffla.org or angelesfirelookout@juno.com or 818-951-0230.
Webmaster: Don Kyle. www.anffla.org or angeleslookout@earthlink.net.
Newsletter: Ric Opalka. opalka@earthlink.net or 909-629-5111.



Mt Hawkins. *Photo by Don Rogers.*



RESCUE. *Photo by Pam Morey.*

Learn more about it: www.anffla.org

A Message to Our Friends



Don't have time to volunteer but still want to help? The ANFFLA needs your assistance.

We work diligently to preserve and protect historical jewels atop the forest crown. Many items are needed to maintain our 2 operating lookouts atop Vetter Mountain and South Mt. Hawkins. Even more will be needed if we are to be successful in our quest to restore and reopen the Slide Mountain lookout. These items include money, building materials, money and supplies. Did we mention money?

We have great goals: restoring and preserving the few remaining lookout in the San Gabriel Mountains, hosting visitors and assisting in the effort to protect our forest; but we must achieve these goals in the real world. We need your help!

Don't know how much to give? Consider these options.

For \$10, you will get this newsletter for one full season.

For \$50, the newsletter and an invitation to our supersessions and field trips for one full season.

For \$100, all of the above plus guided tours of the lookouts at Vetter and South Mt. Hawkins.

For \$200 all of the above plus the end-of-season t-shirt that is given to our most active volunteers.

The most important thing of course is that you make the donation with which you are most comfortable. Any assistance will be deeply appreciated.

Please include the lower portion of this sheet with your contribution.

Enclosed please find my check for \$_____ made payable to the **ANFFLA**.

I understand my contribution will only be used to assist in achieving the objectives of the Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association (ANFFLA).

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ email: _____

The Angeles National Forest Fire Lookout Association (ANFFLA) is a 501c(3) corporation and your contribution is tax-deductible. Your employer may match your donation. Please check with your personnel office.

Please mail contribution with this sheet to:

**ANFFLA
POB 1409
Arcadia, CA 91077**