

Church members lend hand to volunteer project

As part of a statewide "Mormon Helping Hands" effort, about 500 local volunteers from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints helped spruce up Carbon Canyon Regional Park.

Volunteers young and old cleared brush from trails, painted buildings and helped clean up the park.

Another group of about 90 volunteers helped with cleaning projects at Esteli Park and the skate park in La Bonita Park, both in La Habra.

"For us as a church it's a great blessing to get families together to serve and give back to our community," Randy Burnett said in a press release.

The Yorba Linda resident presides over the Placentia California Stake of the Mormon church, an area covering Placentia, Brea, Yorba Linda, and parts of Anaheim and Fullerton.

"Service is a wonderful thing," he said. "Not only does it unite us as a family, but it teaches our children gratitude for the communities that we are so blessed to be a part of."

At La Bonita "Skate Park", volunteers

cleaned the restroom building and painted over graffiti, while others planted groundcover at the southwest entrance.

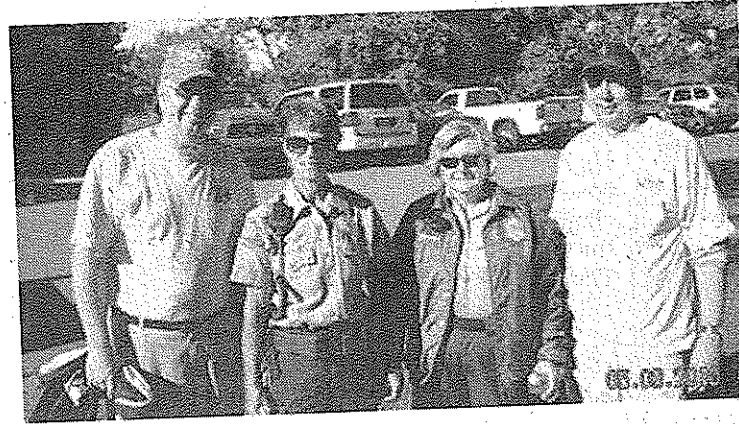
Michael Green, bishop of the North Hills Ward who oversaw work at Esteli Park, said in a press release, "We hauled out several hundred pounds of garbage, in the shape of snack wraps, bottles, cans, broken glass, fast food trash, etc.

We also hauled out broken fencing, plywood and a shopping cart that had been 80 percent buried under mud from the flowing creek.

It was good day."

Brent Goode of the La Habra Ward said the volunteers expressed good feelings about doing something positive to help in the community. "A good time was had by all."

Volunteer Leonard Renick, owner of Renick Cadillac and Subaru in Fullerton, and local resident, helped at with the Carbon Canyon clean-up and said in the release, "I'm here to help out. I've been coming to this park for many years and am happy to make a contribution to make it even more beautiful than it is."



Randy Burnett, Stake president, Joanne Taylor, senior ranger Carbon Canyon Regional Park, Janet Colston, park ranger, and Craig Griffin, local event coordinator.



Some of the younger volunteers help pull weeds. > PHOTOS COURTESY OF NANCY REED



Rebecca Larcabal, Gina Halladay and Carla Coyle of Brea help paint shelters.